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VOLUME XIX

MAY, 1931

NUMBER 5

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## FINANCIAL NOTES

EAST ASIATIC COMPANY OF COPENHAGEN  
ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT

As usual, the many activities of the East Asiatic Company are interestingly set forth in the company's annual report. It shows that, with reference to the Baltic America Line, final arrangements were made for the sale of its three ships in the transatlantic service, *Polonia*, *Estonia*, and *Lituanica*, to a Polish concern under the new name of the Polish Transatlantic Shipping Company, Ltd., with headquarters in Poland's new port, Gdynia. It is evident from the report that the general depression in trade and traffic made itself felt in the financial results for the past year, but at the same time the company was able to set aside 12,500,000 kroner from its reserve fund to the special fund decreed by the new law which requires that 25 per cent of the capital be employed for that purpose. Of the net surplus for the year 8 per cent was paid out in dividends.

SWEDISH GASACCUMULATOR COMPANY  
INCREASES DIVIDEND

With a net profit for the year of 1,720,000 kroner, as against 1,640,000 kroner the year before, the Swedish Gasaccumulator Company of Stockholm found it advisable to increase its dividend to stockholders from 5 to 5½ per cent. The automatic beacons and crossroad blinkers of the company, better known as the AGA Company, have won world-wide recognition and are based on the inventions of Dr. Gustaf Dalen, who still heads the company. Dr. Dalen, who is a Nobel prize winner, is often referred to as "Sweden's Blind Edison," having lost his sight while experimenting in his laboratory.

NORWEGIAN FINANCES AS SEEN BY  
EDITOR OF "NORWAY"

The financial editor of the Norwegian publication, *Norway*, speaking of the present conditions in the country, writes: "The publication of numerous bank accounts for the year 1930, showing relatively satisfactory results, is having an excellent effect. The low discount rate which ruled in 1930—lower than for many years—has naturally led to some reduction on advances, although some saving has been effected on account of lower deposit rates. Leading Norwegian banks kept pace with Norges Bank's discount rate reductions with respect to interest rates on both advances and deposits until the bank rate was reduced from 4½ per cent to 4 per cent. The banks then decided to keep deposit rates unchanged, as they desired to stimulate savings and to protect themselves against the possible absorption of Norwegian money by foreign banks."

LOWER PRICES AFFECT DANISH  
COOPERATIVE TURNOVERS

Although greater quantities of products were handled by the Danish Cooperative Association during the past year, the lower prices affected the turnovers. The outstanding decline took place in the dairy industry, butter bringing 660,000,000 kroner as against 750,000,000 kroner the previous year. The turnover of the Consumers' Cooperative Societies and of the cooperative egg exporters remained unchanged at 411,000,000 kroner and 15,000,000 kroner respectively. The cooperative slaughterhouses increased their sales turnover by 7,000,000 kroner.

JULIUS MORITZEN.

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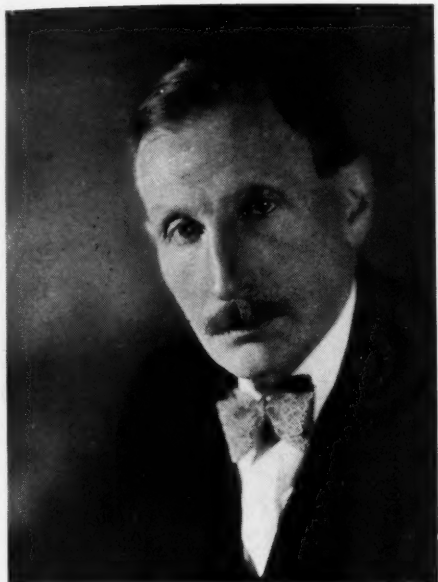
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A. N. RYGG

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If Fridtjof Nansen had lived till October 10 of the present year he would have been three score and ten. His Norwegian publisher, Jacob Dybwad, intends to commemorate this birthday by the publication of a definitive and authoritative *Life of Nansen* now being prepared by Jon Sörensen. This *Life* will be published in English by the Foundation in collaboration with W. W. Norton & Company. Pending this important publication, we felt that it was right for the REVIEW to gather up in a connected narrative all the information which could appear only in a more or less fragmentary form at the time of Nansen's death, and it seemed most fitting to do so in this month of May which marks the first anniversary of his death, as it also marks the anniversary of freedom in the land of his birth. The task of writing this biographical sketch was entrusted to A. N. Rygg, who has known Fridtjof Nansen since Nansen's first visit to this country and who, especially during his editorship of *Nordisk Tidende*, has had innumerable opportunities of coming in contact with his great countryman. After he parted with *Nordisk Tidende*, Mr. Rygg has devoted himself to social and charitable work among his countrymen in Brooklyn, and especially during this last

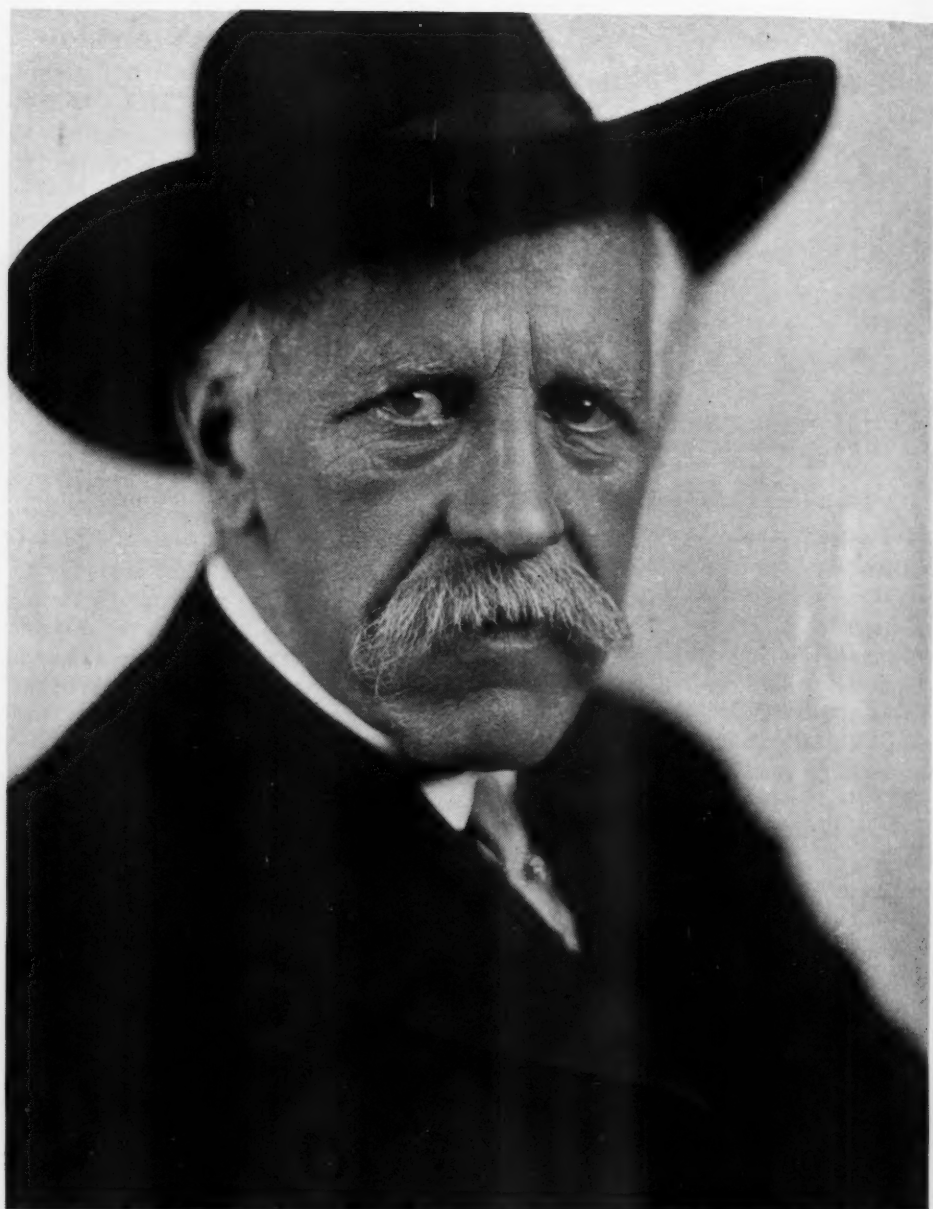
year of want he has given his time and strength to helping his neighbors almost as freely as Fridtjof Nansen gave his to helping the world at large. For the drawings by Nansen reproduced with Mr. Rygg's article we are indebted to Consul General Morgenstierne of New York, who is the owner of many original signed drawings by Nansen and, at the request of the REVIEW, very kindly put them at our disposal. The two entitled respectively "Strange Tracks" and "Nansen with His Granddaughter" were reproduced from the Year Book of *Norden*, the other three were loaned by Mr. Morgenstierne.

CATHERINE PARMENTER will be remembered for her poem, "Mary—Anno Domini 1930," in the last Yule Number of the REVIEW.

HOLGER LUNDBERGH has known Prince Eugen of Sweden all his life. His maternal grandfather, Carl Rupert Nyblom, professor in esthetics at the University of Uppsala, was the Prince's tutor; his father and mother, the sculptor Teodor Lundberg and the writer Ellen Lundberg-Nyblom, were so close friends of the Prince that when their son Holger was christened, the Prince was his godfather. Mr. Lundbergh, who is now associated with the American-Swedish News Exchange in New York, is a frequent contributor to American magazines. For the REVIEW he has written sketches of Mayor Carl Lindhagen and "Uncle Anders" Zorn.

MARIE BREGENDAHL is one of the most distinguished of those Danish authors who find their material among the peasants of Jutland and who are known as "the Jutland school." She chooses apparently simple scenes and people, but with subtle insight she discovers in them unexpected depths of feeling and intensities of purpose, which she reveals to the reader with quiet and low-toned art.

ERIC CYRIL BELLQUIST is Fellow of the Foundation to Denmark, and Amy Bowles Johnson Traveling Fellow in Political Science from the University of California.



FRIDTJOF NANSEN

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# THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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## Fridtjof Nansen

*By* A. N. RYGG

**D**R. FRIDTJOF NANSEN, national hero of Norway and citizen of the world, died with dramatic suddenness in his home near Oslo, Norway, just about one year ago, at the age of 68. The famous explorer and humanitarian had for some weeks been confined to his bed by an attack of phlebitis, or inflammation of the veins in one of his legs, but was thought to be well on the road to recovery, when death came to him, on May 12, while he was sitting by a window enjoying the beautiful landscape before him. The immediate cause of death was failure of the heart.

To many people it seemed almost unbelievable that this man of untiring action and superb physique was no more. The truth, however, was that Nansen had worn himself out with his tremendous activities and that, during the last years, he had not been able to spend sufficient time in the open air to get necessary exercise, so great were the demands upon him.

The news of his death came as a great shock, not only to the Norwegian people, but to the whole world, in which for many years he had been one of the most compelling figures.

It was eminently fitting that this great son of Norway, who had contributed so much to the glory of his native land, should be laid to rest on the Norwegian day of liberty, the Seventeenth of May, corresponding to the American Fourth of July. And what added to the impressiveness of the occasion was the fact that Norway at about the same time could commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its separation from Sweden, an event in which Dr. Nansen was one of the outstanding personalities. Indeed, few people who are not Norwegian-



born can realize what an enormous moral power Nansen wielded in his own country, not because he sought it or was personally interested in making his influence felt—he was altogether too modest for that—but on account of his strength of character, his unwavering courage, his brilliant mind, and that rock-ribbed confidence he inspired in everybody as a man who at all times stood ready to back his opinions with action. This great patriot could really be considered the reserve force of Norway, the man to whom his people could turn in critical times and who would never fail them.

This was the case in 1905, that glorious year in Norwegian history. The politicians were wobbling and uncertain in their course, because the forcing of the issue, that is, Norway's complete independence and separation from Sweden, might mean a bloody war with the latter country, a war the outcome of which was by no means assured beforehand, as Sweden had about three times the man-power of Norway.

In those days of doubt and anxiety Dr. Nansen's voice cut suddenly through the fog and steeled the nation to decisive action, which ultimately led to the separation of the two countries without bloodshed. The result of the separation has been that the two peoples are the best of friends, now that the old occasions for bickering have disappeared. Dr. Nansen clarified the issue in a series of newspaper articles at home, and also rendered splendid service, which never will be forgotten by the Norwegian people, by the manly and superior manner in which he upheld the justice of the standpoint of Norway in cosmopolitan papers, such as the *Times*, *Le Temps*, and *Kölnische Zeitung*. Also his pamphlet, "Norway and the Union with Sweden," which was printed in English, French, and German, contributed mightily to a proper understanding of the cause of Norway in the great countries of the world. Nansen's world-famous name commanded attention, where it otherwise might have been impossible for a small, struggling people to obtain a hearing. It is entirely possible that this knight without fear and without reproach would have been elected president of a new republic, if the people of Norway had not decided to remain a limited monarchy. But if he did not become president, he was by many regarded as "the symbol of Norway."

Thus it will easily be understood that the funeral of Dr. Nansen on the Norwegian day of liberty had the very finest, indeed the most beautiful and natural setting. If Nansen himself could have chosen the time for his funeral, he most likely would have selected this day in May, so dear to the hearts of all Norwegians, on which Norway one hundred and sixteen years before had received its new, free Constitution, and won the liberty to develop its spiritual and material possibili-

ties without restraint and hindrance, the Seventeenth of May, when nature too has thrown off all restraints after the long winter slumber, and there is life and growth and hope on all sides.

And so Dr. Nansen, the embodiment of the best and strongest characteristics of the Norwegian folk-soul, the genius of his people, was laid to rest on this beautiful May day, while all over Norway and in all the capitals of the world the flags were at half-mast and the whole Norwegian people stood with bowed heads, realizing that a mighty chieftain had fallen.

Yet, at the same time the sun was shining brightly overhead, carrying the message to the sorrowing nation that it should not forget itself in contemplation of what it had lost, but realize that new problems lay ahead, and that Nansen's life should serve as an inspiration, and a stimulus spurring the Norwegian people on to its utmost endeavors in all walks of life. The bright sunshine carried likewise the hope that the race which had bred Dr. Nansen, and so many other great men, would also in the days to come produce giants who would lift high the lamp of progress and be an honor to Norway and a benefit to the world. This thought found a beautiful expression when the children of Oslo passed Nansen's bier and sang the national anthem with their clear young voices.

In this way the funeral of the famous Norwegian became, as he undoubtedly would have wished it himself, not simply an event of sorrow, but rather a milestone, where the Norwegian nation paused, took stock of itself, and measured its duties and opportunities in the world's work.

THE FIRST time I saw Fridtjof Nansen was in Chicago in the fall of 1897, when he was touring this country with his lecture "Farthest North," telling of his expedition to the North Polar regions, when he reached  $86^{\circ} 14'$ . (In later years he visited the United States a number of times on important missions.) I was one of a crowd of several thousand Norwegians who had gone down to the Auditorium Hotel, where Nansen was staying, to give him a rousing welcome to the Windy City. When this typical viking appeared on the steps leading down to Michigan Avenue to address the multitude, it was not difficult to realize that here we had before us the ideal athlete and explorer, and the idol of Norwegian youth; tall and slim, a body well trained and as supple as that of a tiger, clad in a tight-fitting suit of his own design, a massive head and brow with penetrating blue eyes, a combination of mental and physical strength that seemed able to overcome all obstacles. No wonder that the painter Erik Werenskiold chose Nansen as his model when he was about to draw the heroic king Olav Tryggvason



*Fridtjof Nansen*

Drawing by Olaf Gulbransson

of nine hundred years ago, in his superb illustration to Snorre Sturlasson's *Sagas of the Norwegian Kings*.

Nansen's tour through this country on the occasion of his first visit became a veritable triumph, and he was ever after very popular with the American people. This popularity grew still greater when, some ten years ago, he took up his work as a humanitarian and relief worker on the grandest scale.

Nansen has been compared with President Theodore Roosevelt in this, that he was very versatile and had many strings to his instrument. He achieved eminent distinction in many fields of endeavor, as a sportsman and explorer, as a patriot and orator, as a leader of youth, as a scientist and writer, as a diplomat, as a peace advocate, and as a humanitarian of the greatest magnitude, while com-

petent judges have declared that he would even have distinguished himself as an artist in pen and ink, if he could have devoted sufficient time to following his artistic inclinations. After his death a very interesting exhibition of a number of his pen-and-ink sketches was held in Oslo, and this showed that he was not merely a clever illustrator, but actually had the real artist's touch to a marked degree. Nansen was

also very fond of music and poetry, particularly English poetry, which he would often read or recite to his friends.

It is, indeed, remarkable how much this great figure among men managed to accomplish during his lifetime, when it is taken into consideration, as has been stated, that he was no Aladdin who got something for nothing, but that each one of his many victories was the result of the most painstaking care and preparation, so that failure was practically eliminated.

This is really the most valuable lesson Nansen left to posterity: Develop and utilize every ounce of your strength and possibilities to the utmost.

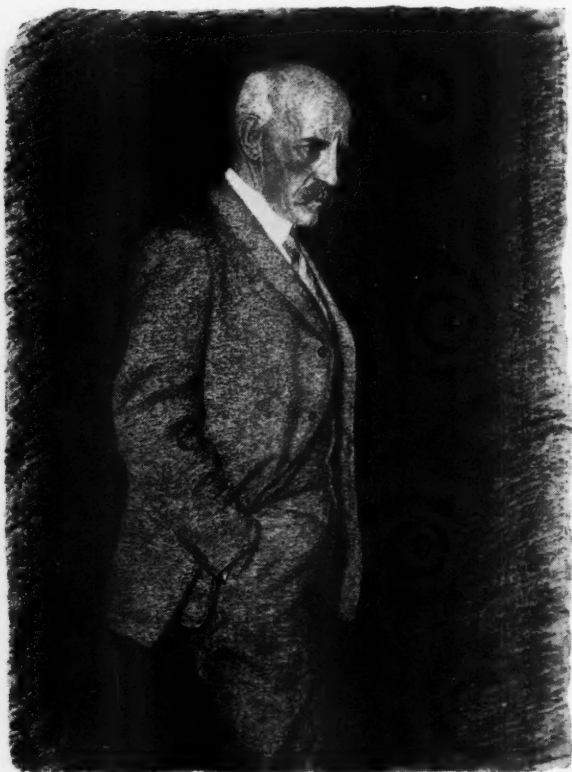
It is interesting to note that after Dr. Nansen had swung around the circle of his various pursuits, he returned in his last years to his first love, arctic exploration, and when he visited the United States for the last time, in 1929, it was for the purpose among other things of prevailing upon the government to erect a mooring mast in Alaska for the Zeppelin with which he planned to undertake, together with Dr. Hugo Eckener, a scientific expedition across the North Polar regions. This project, however, came to nought, as death overtook the bold explorer before the plan could be realized. As a matter of fact, Nansen did not up to the last minute consider himself through, in spite of the busy life he had led ever since he was a youth. He had many plans, chiefly along scientific lines, which he was eager to undertake and finish.

Dr. Nansen, who while yet in his early manhood caught the world's fancy as a bold adventurer, was born on October 10, 1861, at Store Frøen, Vestre Aker, near Oslo, the son of a prominent jurist. As a boy he was an enthusiastic sportsman and developed into a skier and skater of the first rank as well as a hunter, fisherman, and sailor. He showed early decided leanings towards nature observation and science, and after matriculating at the University of Oslo, he pursued eagerly the study of natural history, particularly zoology.

When twenty-one years old—in 1882—Nansen went with the seal hunter *Viking* to the waters off East Greenland on a voyage of zoological exploration and study. During this expedition the ship was icebound for a time. This experience gave him the idea of returning there on a later occasion and attempting to traverse at its widest part the great ice field which covers the interior of that country.

On returning to Norway from his voyage with the *Viking*, Nansen, not yet twenty-two years old, was appointed curator at the Museum of National History in Bergen. In order to pursue his nature studies he spent some time in 1886 at the Zoological Station in Naples.





FRIDTJOF NANSEN  
Self-Portrait

The plan to revisit Greenland and across the great ice fields on skis had not, however, been put aside by Nansen, but he had to wait six years before it could be realized. The possibility of his success in this daring undertaking was discounted by many arctic authorities, and the small grant of 5000 kroner which he asked for was refused by the Norwegian government, on the grounds that it did not desire to assist him in committing suicide.

The money was, however, provided by Augustin Gamél, a Danish merchant, who felt that there must be good stuff in the young man as a de-

scendant of the old, redoubtable Hans Nansen, one time Mayor of Copenhagen. The greater part of the expense of the expedition was nevertheless defrayed from Nansen's private means. With five companions, among them Otto Sverdrup who later won fame as an arctic explorer on his own account, Nansen landed in May 1888 on the east coast of Greenland. After a very wearisome and dangerous journey they reached in September the west coast, where they had to spend the winter in a colony of Eskimos, before they could return to civilization. The trip, besides being a sport performance of the highest rank, was also rich in scientific observations. To mention only one, the location of an Arctic Cold Pole was determined.

Nansen, on his return home, wrote two very interesting, popular-scientific books, *On Skis across Greenland*, and *Eskimo Life* which, with their clear style and fine, often lyrical descriptions of his experiences, gained for Nansen admirers all over the globe.

It may be said that this adventurous crossing of Greenland on skis had a great deal to do with making skiing the immensely popular sport

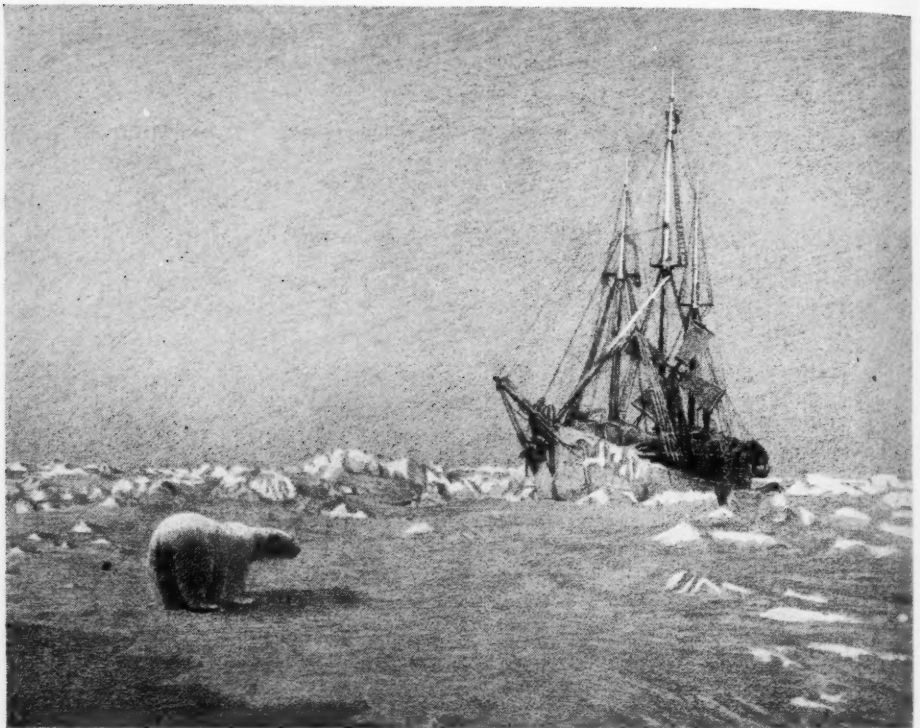


that it is in Norway today. The young Norwegians, reading about the thrilling experiences of Nansen and his companions, were fired with enthusiasm for this wonderful and health-giving sport, which has since spread to all countries where there is enough snow to make it possible.

In 1888, when Nansen was away on his expedition to Greenland, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy was conferred upon him by the University of Oslo for a treatise on "The Structure and Combination of the Histological Elements of the Central Nervous System in the Lower Animals." He was also appointed curator at the University.

The trip to Greenland was for Dr. Nansen a good preparatory school to a still more important expedition, which was begun in 1893, and lasted for three years. This became Nansen's greatest feat as an explorer, and made his name famous all over the world. He had for some time past desired to employ a new plan in exploring as far as possible the still unknown arctic regions. This plan was based on the idea that an expedition, in a vessel constructed for that particular purpose, should let itself be frozen in by the ice north of Siberia. From this starting point the vessel would, according to Nansen's theory, drift with a current, which was known to exist, across the Polar Sea with the prospect of passing over the Pole or its neighborhood. The plan was scientifically explained by Nansen in a lecture before the Norwegian Geographical Society in 1890, and in the same year the Norwegian Storting voted the sum asked for—280,000 kroner. The rest of the money required—140,000 kroner—was subscribed by King Oscar and some wealthy Norwegians, and the well known shipbuilder Colin Archer could then begin the construction of his masterpiece in ship technique, the *Fram*. It was built according to the design of Dr. Nansen, who thus proved himself to be also an excellent engineer. The theory that the ship with its sloping sides could not be crushed by the ice, but would be lifted up under the enormous pressure, has since proven its correctness on many occasions. It was the same far-famed vessel that Captain Roald Amundsen used on his expedition to the South Pole. Last year it found a final resting place at Oslo, where it will be preserved as a memorial for coming generations.

Aboard the *Fram*, with the experienced Captain Otto Sverdrup as master, and with a well equipped company, Nansen left Jugor Strait on August 4, 1893, and steered northeast through the Siberian Sea. Pressing his ship into an ice floe off the New Siberian Islands, he drifted through the winter, in a temperature sometimes 62 degrees below zero, the ship being borne up as he had expected.



A POLAR BEAR LOOKING AT THE *Fram* STUCK IN THE ICE  
Drawing by Fridtjof Nansen

The ship, whose name means "Forward," was warm and comfortable, and every member of the company remained in perfect health. Their observations made valuable additions to the knowledge of Arctic oceanography. During the next summer little progress was made toward the Pole, the winds often driving the *Fram* southward, but by New Year's Day of 1895 the ship was at 83 degrees 24 minutes north, nearer to the Pole than any explorer had ever been. It surpassed by a few miles the "farthest north" attained by Brainard and Lockwood of the Greely expedition, twelve years before.

Impatient with the slow progress of the ice drift, and calculating that it would carry him around, and not across the pole, Nansen in the following February left the *Fram* frozen in thirty feet of ice, her company all well and happy. With one companion, Lieutenant F. H. Johansen, he set out across the ice with two sledges drawn by twenty-eight dogs, carrying two kayaks for use in open water. They took provisions for a hundred days, but a year and five months passed before they met men of the outside world again. By April 7 they were in latitude 86 degrees 14 minutes north, only 272 miles from the Pole, and

184 miles nearer to it than any white man had ever been. The two men had left their fur clothing on the *Fram*. They were wearing woolen coats, and the temperature was more than 40 degrees below zero. On April 12 their watches stopped, so that from then on they were not sure of their longitude, and had to go by dead reckoning.

They retreated southward, supposedly headed for Petermann Land, and were often in extreme danger of their lives. The story of how they overcame all obstacles makes wonderful reading. All the spring and summer they struggled on, finding no land and no agreement with Payer's map, to which they had been trusting. At the end of August, in latitude 81:13, reaching an unrecognized land, they built a hut of stones, earth, and moss; shot bears and walruses; and went into winter quarters, making their sleeping-bags of bearskins and living on bear meat and blubber. They passed the winter in good health, and in May resumed their southward journey, at last recognizing the place where they had been as part of Franz Josef land. This land has recently been rechristened Fridtjof Nansen land in honor of the late explorer, who also had a mountain range named after him at the other end of the world, when Captain Roald Amundsen reached the South Pole in December 1911.

On August 7, 1896, Nansen and his companions happened to hear the barking of a dog, and this led them to the Frederic Jackson expedition whose vessel, the steamer *Woodward*, brought them to Vardö on August 13. The arrival of the *Fram* a week later ended this brilliant undertaking in the happiest fashion. Never before had a polar expedition been carried through with such consummate skill or in such a gay spirit and such good humor. Nansen had shown himself to be not only an heroic explorer and scientist, but to his crew also as a most considerate, helpful comrade and fellow-worker. He related his experiences in his wonderful descriptive book *Farthest North*, which has been translated into most civilized languages, and is considered a classic in travel literature, while the rich scientific results of the expedition are to be found in the bulky compilation *The Norwegian North Polar Expedition, 1893-96*, a veritable treasury for research in oceanography and natural science.

At thirty-six, Nansen was not only the national hero of Norway, but honors were showered upon him from everywhere, and his fame as an explorer extended to the farthest corners of the globe. Soon after his return from *Farthest North* he was appointed professor at the University of Oslo. There he devoted himself particularly to oceanography, which he succeeded in developing into an exact science, thus becoming

a pioneer of international rank in this field. He wrote many books and treatises on this and kindred subjects.

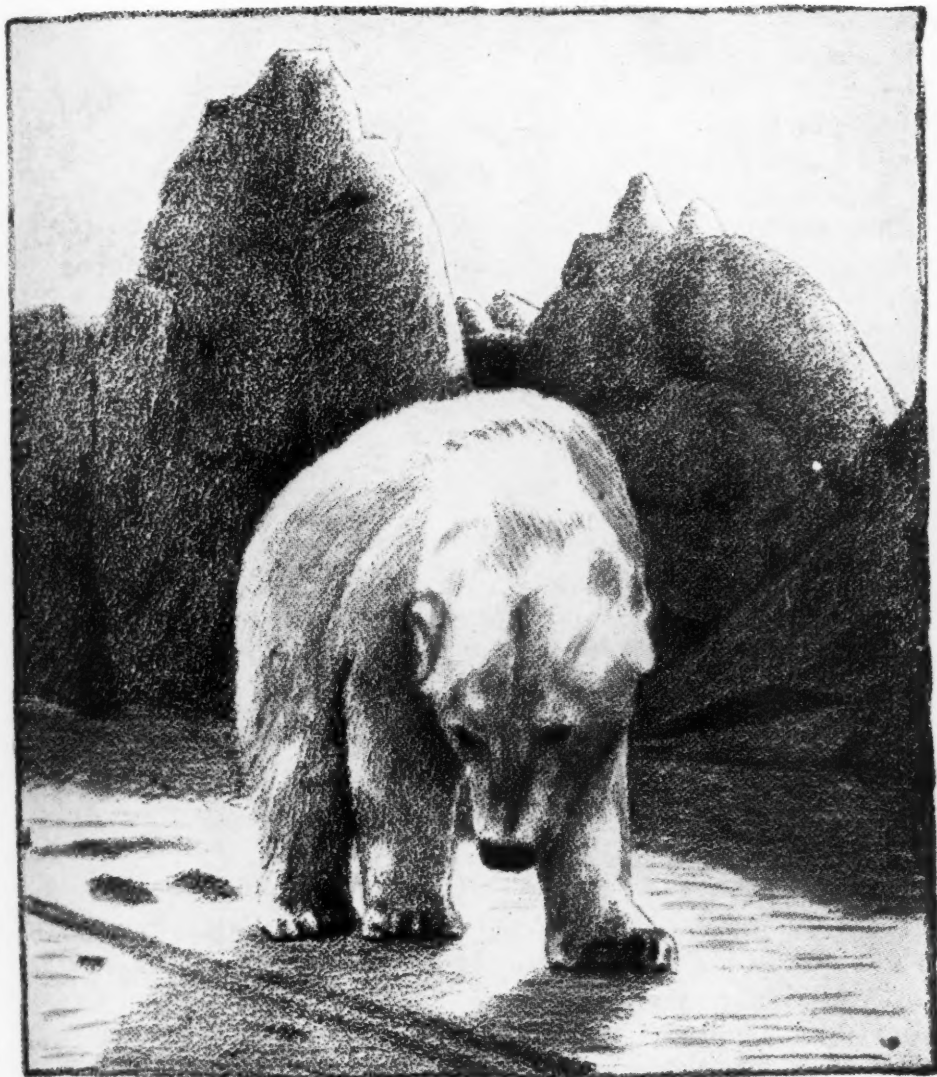
It should here be mentioned, what has recently been revealed by Professor Björn Helland-Hansen, that Nansen had not only contemplated but had even planned in detail an expedition to the South Pole as early as in 1903.

According to Helland-Hansen, Dr. Nansen launched his plans for penetrating through the Antarctic before a circle of intimate friends a few months after his return from his first *Fram* voyage. No news of these plans ever reached the public prints until now. Nansen had secured financial backing from a group of wealthy Englishmen, but as other tasks crowded in on him, he put the plans for a South Pole expedition aside temporarily. Then came 1905. Nansen entered politics and afterwards, for many years, had only an academic interest in arctic exploration. After it had become known that Roald Amundsen had joined in the race to the South Pole, which he reached December 14, 1911, Nansen shelved his plans and whole-heartedly supported Amundsen. It is interesting to speculate on what would have happened had Nansen set out on this venture at that early date. The history of the South Pole would no doubt have been entirely different.

After the separation of Norway from Sweden, in which event Nansen, as we have seen, took a leading part, he consented to serve as Norway's Minister to England for three years, from 1905 to 1908. In the following years he lived in comparative retirement, devoting himself to scientific research, which after all was closest to his heart. He remained, however, in intimate contact with everything that took place around him. In Norwegian politics he participated as a firm advocate of preparation for proper measures of defense. In 1912 he visited Svalbard (Spitsbergen), and in 1913 he traveled along the coast of Siberia and also through the interior of that country. His two books concerning these expeditions, *A Trip to Spitsbergen* and *Through Siberia*, are remarkable for their youthful freshness and keen observations. It was also in this period that Nansen wrote one of his most important books, *Through Northern Mists*, which is a critical study of everything that we know of arctic exploration from the earliest times.

With the outbreak of the World War Nansen's interest was again drawn to politics, if this word be taken in its highest and best sense. He stressed the cultural importance and mission of the small neutral States and recommended eloquently that the Scandinavian countries should stand together in maintaining their common interests and keeping the peace. It was, Nansen argued, the task of the neutrals to keep unbroken





STRANGE TRACKS  
*Drawing by Fridtjof Nansen*

the chain of human development, instead of allowing themselves to be drawn into a war where they simply would be stamped out without being able to accomplish anything of value. This standpoint Nansen advocated in a lecture in Stockholm, where he received a very hearty welcome. Such an inter-Scandinavian agreement was actually made and served to good purpose.

As the war continued, the position of Norway became more and more difficult and exposed. The country does not produce sufficient



foodstuffs to cover the requirements of her citizens, and early in 1917 Nansen declared that steps would have to be taken to secure the importation of foodstuffs and other necessities, and that these would have to be rationed. To begin with, Nansen was ridiculed, but it was soon evident to everybody that it was necessary to reach an understanding with America for needed supplies. Again the Norwegian people turned to Nansen, and so in July of the same year we find him over here as chairman of the Norwegian-American Commission negotiating for food supplies for Norway during the war. The negotiations were long drawn out, but Nansen again demonstrated his mastery of the subject at hand in its minutest details. He could prove the actual needs of his country down to the last calory, and so the agreement allowing Norway to export from America some 450,000 tons of supplies per year was finally signed in April 1918. This highly satisfactory result was to a great extent due to the absolute confidence and reliance which the American authorities placed in the straightforward statements of the Norwegian negotiator. Moreover, he could point out how Norway's mercantile fleet played an important part in the cause of the Allies by fearlessly sailing in the danger zones at all times. In consequence about half of this large fleet, 830 ships with a capacity of 1,237,000 tons, and more than two thousand sailors, were sent to the bottom during the great conflict.

It might have been reasonable to suppose that a man with such an extremely active career behind him would by this time wish to retire to a quieter, less exacting life. For years he had been carrying a load that would have taxed the strength of two men. And yet Nansen still had what became perhaps his most important work ahead of him. Great as an explorer, a scientist, and a patriot, he was, in the opinion of the world, to appear even greater as a humanitarian. If hitherto he had enjoyed the admiration of mankind, his work in the succeeding years was to make him universally beloved.

After the war, in 1920, Nansen commenced his tremendous philanthropic activities. He did this reluctantly, as he had so much unfinished scientific work waiting for him. But at the same time he felt that if he did not shoulder this task and help to relieve the suffering caused by the war, he should regret it all the rest of his life. Under the authority of the League of Nations and in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the German and Soviet authorities, Nansen took steps to send to their homelands the thousands of suffering prisoners of war who were still to be found in the various countries, mostly Russian prisoners in Central Europe, especially Germany, and German and Austrian prisoners in Russia and Siberia. By a curious



NANSEN WITH HIS GRANDDAUGHTER, EVA HÖJER  
*Drawn by Nansen from a Photograph*

oversight in the Treaty of Versailles, no provision had been made for the return home of prisoners, the majority of whom were in a most pitiable plight. Nansen displayed an amazing activity; he traveled from country to country pleading for assistance and money from public and private sources. All in all, some 500,000 prisoners of about twenty nationalities were sent to their homes through the Nansen Relief, an organization which, for the time being, almost acquired the status of an established government and, as a matter of fact, was recognized as such in the capitals of Europe. At one time Nansen maintained a large fleet in the Baltic, running between German and Russian ports. He had also a number of ships sailing between Vladivostock and Hamburg.

This undertaking had been so efficiently and economically managed that it attracted the attention of the whole world, and when Nansen, in

1921, undertook to relieve the famine-stricken parts of Russia, he received at an international conference in Geneva the support of 48 Red Cross societies, 64 charitable organizations, and 12 governments. By the League of Nations, in which Nansen represented Norway, and where he was one of the most distinguished members, he was elected High Commissioner for this work, which was carried through in accordance with an agreement with the Russian government. Nansen personally visited the stricken regions several times. He found the conditions there frightful, and, in order to stimulate interest in the work, he had to set on foot an intensive propaganda by visiting the chief capitals of Europe. He was also in America on this mission. It should be understood that it was not at this time an easy matter to enlist sympathy for anything Russian, even for starving people, as the Soviet government was a stench in the nostrils of most Western peoples. But the cause prevailed, due to Nansen's enormous popularity and energy. He succeeded in saving nearly two million people from starvation, especially in the Volga districts and Ukraine. It has been said that Nansen's publicity campaign, showing the horrible conditions in Russia, undoubtedly had influence in America, which under Hoover's inspiration and direction fed at one time ten million Russian sufferers. Later on Nansen stated that the United States alone among the great powers did not "count on its buttons whether or not it was good policy to feed the hungry." It certainly would not strengthen the Soviet, if the Russian people were shown that charity still existed. Beginning with Hoover's Belgian Relief and continuing with the great relief in Russia, the Americans had done their share in that "disarmament of the mind" which, Nansen said, was even more important than the disarmament of the nations.

In addition to feeding the starving in Russia, Nansen had also been appointed High Commissioner of the League of Nations for the relief of Russian refugees, of which there were said to be some two million scattered in European countries. The problem was to find them work, so that they could maintain themselves.

But Nansen was not yet through. In the winter of 1921-22 a new catastrophe took place in Europe, as several hundred thousand Greeks were driven out of Asia Minor and Eastern Thrace by the Turks, while, on the other hand, many Turks were fugitives from Western Thrace. To the best of his ability Nansen provided help for these unhappy people, and what he has done to save the Armenian people from threatened extermination will never fade from the memory of the members of this race. Few people who were present at a dinner given in honor of Dr. Nansen by the Norwegian Hospital of Brooklyn in



*Frd. Wilhelm Morgenstjerne  
i taknemlighed for mangen glad og hyggelig stund  
fra Fridtjof Nansen  
19. februar 1930*

ONE OF NANSEN'S LAST DRAWINGS IS THIS OF HIMSELF AND HIS TWO FRIENDS, MR. WILHELM MORGENSTIERNE AND PROFESSOR WORM-MÜLLER, IN THE SKI HUT AT GOLAA WHERE THEY SPENT SEVERAL SPRING VACATIONS TOGETHER

1928 will ever forget that beautiful and touching moment when an elderly representative of the Armenians in New York arose and with tears in his eyes and in a faltering voice thanked Nansen as the saviour of the Armenian people.

The Assembly of the League of Nations expressed its appreciation of the humanitarian work of Dr. Nansen in the following terms:

"The Assembly feels it its duty to pay a whole-hearted tribute to the High Commissioner, Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, both for his unceasing devotion, of which for more than four years he has given proof, in assisting refugees of every nation, and for the high qualities which he





*Underwood*

INSTALLATION OF DR. NANSEN AS RECTOR OF ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY. AT THE HEAD OF THE PROCESSION WITH NANSEN IS SIR JAMES IRWINE

has displayed in the carrying out of his onerous duties. The Assembly would record the fact that, with the very limited means at his disposal, Dr. Nansen has saved from misery and often from death hundreds of thousands of human beings, and would render him the grateful thanks due him as a benefactor of humanity."

It was this immense humanitarian work which in 1923 brought Nansen the Nobel Peace Prize—and seldom has this distinction been awarded to more universal satisfaction. But he evidently had earned the distinction at heavy cost to himself, for his friends noted,

when he arrived in Oslo to receive the prize, that his hair had turned white from the sight of all the human misery he had been forced to deal with. In a speech he mentioned that the hardships suffered on the Greenland ice and in the Arctic were nothing as compared to those which a human heart had to endure when meeting face to face the famine-stricken population of Russia and the homeless refugees in Greece. The prize amounted to some \$35,000 in American money, and a Danish publisher, Christian Erichsen, doubled the amount as a token of his admiration for Nansen, who, however, donated the total amount to the relief of the starving Russians. It is proper to add here that Nansen carried through all this humanitarian work without material compensation in any form. In fact, there was no time when he labored for himself. The whole world was his concern.

Nansen was a formidable advocate of peace and a strong supporter of the League of Nations, as he was convinced that this organization presented the only hope of bringing about a tendency toward peace in the world. It must succeed, or chaos will ensue, was his opinion.



"I should hate to think of what might happen if the League were to fail in its purpose. The feelings uppermost seem to be hate, egotism, and suspicion between classes and between nations. The great war, which was to be the last war—where are they now all those fine words? I believe that this war has shown more clearly than any earlier, that war never carries with it anything good, not even for the victors. And yet there are deluded people who talk of the next war—although they ought to know that the next war would mean the destruction of Europe. We must do everything to strengthen the League of Nations and work for the United States of Humanity."

An American publicist has characterized Nansen's work for a good understanding among the nations in the following manner: "If the millennium of world harmony ever arrives, Fridtjof Nansen will rank among the foremost of its architects."

To the youth of Norway and of the world Nansen has been a great inspiration. It has already been mentioned that he was a prominent factor in developing the use of skis, and in 1916 he published a book, *Life in the Open*, in which he sought to teach young people love of nature, and to train the body so as always to be fit. And to an audience of English youth, who had shown him a touching honor, Nansen said:

"You are young, my friends. You have life before you with all its



Wide World Photos  
NANSEN IN A CHARACTERISTIC POSE, WITH HIM MINISTER  
BACHKE IN WASHINGTON

wonderful possibilities and adventures. I am sure that some of you some day will be great explorers, either in one field or another. We are all explorers here in life, regardless of what field we work in. But whether you are explorers or not, I have one bit of advice to give you all; hold fast to the work you start in life, until the problem is solved, and solved well, no matter what it is. Tackle it with your whole heart and your whole soul. Do nothing halfways, but carry the problem through with all the ability you possess, and do not be satisfied until you feel that you cannot do it better. The possible is the thing that can be carried out at once, the impossible is merely the thing that takes a little time."

Owing to Nansen's work for the starving Russians, some people assumed that he was partial to or favored the Soviet government. Far from it! When in 1925 he assisted in forming the Patriotic Association (*Fædrelandslaget*) in Oslo, it was for the purpose of opposing all revolutionary steps and all political violence, whether from the hands of fascists or from communists. Nansen was always in favor of orderly, peaceful, and parliamentary procedure.

Close friends of Dr. Nansen tell me that he was the most kindly of men, a delightful companion, easy and considerate to work with, always willing to shoulder the heaviest burden himself, plain and direct as an Abraham Lincoln. He had the true democratic instinct in this that he had no regard for title and position, one person was as good as another, and all would receive the same kindly consideration from him.

When Nansen returned from the Arctic in 1896 a foundation for scientific research bearing his name—the Nansen Fund—was created by donations from all over Norway. This fund now amounts to about two million dollars. In the course of the years other honors of every description came to the famous Norwegian from all over the world, and after his death his heirs donated to a museum in Oslo some 132 diplomas, and about a hundred medals, decorations, and emblems. In this collection is also included two very valuable silver plates set with precious stones, which Nansen received from the Royal Danish Geographical Society in 1897, and the rector's club, which was given him when in 1926 he became an honorary rector of St. Andrew's University in Edinburgh, Scotland. Nansen is said to have valued the last-mentioned distinction very highly. Nansen's home has by purchase been secured as national property and will serve as a memorial to his activities.

Dr. Nansen was married twice. By his first wife, Eva Sars, a noted singer, he had five children. She died in 1907, and in 1919 he married

Fru Sigrun Munthe. He was extremely fond of children, and was never happier than when he could play with his grandchildren.

At his death Nansen was regarded as the greatest son of Norway, and perhaps no man in the whole world stood higher in public estimation than he did. This position of leadership in the realm of ideals he had secured, not by virtue of office, but by inherent strength. His life story reads like a saga of adventure. He was a thinker and dreamer, but he could also make his dreams come true. An internationalist of the highest type, he was yet Norwegian to the core. May the rocky weather-beaten Land of the Midnight Sun breed many sons like Fridtjof Nansen.

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### Trenchant Paragraphs by Nansen

Dr. Nansen's friend and associate in his scientific work, Professor Björn Helland-Hansen, in an article in *Norden*, quotes the following paragraphs from the diaries of Nansen:

ON a vacation trip he came to one of his favorite spots, and thus described the feeling it gave him: "The moon above the mountain, a column of light among dark spruce and delicate birch. The sky high and blue, the hills resting in tranquil night. It is what words can never utter. No jarring note. It is for this we unconsciously long during the purposeless rush of the day. Here what was meaningless finds its solution. That existence in which our dreams and our longing for beauty find rest, where we know each time that here we are at home, and strange moods vibrate through our whole being. We seek that which is the goal of life. May it not be just such a night? Why seek further, nothing can fill us as this. Lofty, pure. Here and here alone is 'Das Land das meine Sprache spricht.' But why? Just because we cannot answer, because its power is mysterious, illogical as life itself. Emerson is right when he says that we descend in order to meet. Has not every one of those we meet such a sacred spot where he too treads softly; but they hide it from themselves and descend to meet. . . ."

In a newspaper notice which was sent him, it was said that he showed a sovereign contempt for the trivialities and banalities of life. "It was said in praise. But when they admire it, why do they not themselves live according to it? If we could eradicate all the banal remnants of half-culture and live for that which is worth while, how easy it would be to lift the whole community, make life simple, bright, and happy.

We would only need to strive for that which we ourselves found worth while, and not think of what other people say about us, as if that were the most important.

"Most people seem to think first and foremost of what impression they are making on other people, even if those others are far inferior to them.

"One hesitates to state his opinion in a difficult question for fear of saying something that may not sound brilliant. Others express themselves in vague terms hoping that they may produce an effect of distinction. Many are afraid of being too insistent in urging their opinions. One is afraid to own his opinion, even when it is his innermost conviction, because he thinks it may lower him in the estimation of other people. It is more rarely that opinion is suppressed from fear of wounding the feelings of others.

"Always, always it is our impression on others. Our whole life is arranged with a view to the effect on others, arranged as other people would have it. Who lives for himself? Who lives his own life? Who can shake off all this pettiness, all this waste of time? . . .

"Public opinion, that clammy monster, ties people's hands behind their backs, muddles the clear fountain of life, clouds the sky—no sunshine, no blue air. On that altar sacrifices are made to the Moloch of our day. There freedom is bound hand and foot, and there joy bleeds to death."

"Real courage is shown only by him who without looking to others is ready quietly to take any consequences whatsoever in a dangerous situation, and who, if he has weaknesses, has also a will strong enough to overcome them. . . ."

"I have studied the lives of the old Norsemen, in thought I have lived with them and followed them on their trips over unknown seas, in ice and cold, in storm and sunshine.

"They were not dreamers, they were men of action, who filled their lives with brave deeds and adventure. How much simpler life was at that time, less complicated, easier to live. *They* were free, took what life offered, laughed at danger, and above all they were not worm-eaten by introspection, as we are. They did not have much ballast, but their wings were strong. With everything they needed in this world stored in their open boats, they found their way over the sea, without compass, in misty and cloudy weather without even sun and stars. But they reached their goal or went to the bottom; they had their fill of storm and struggle.

"What a miserable navigation we have made out of life, among sub-



merged rocks and hidden reefs, in shallow and brackish water, far from the salt spray of the broad open sea. . . ."

"Life is a continued garnering of experience, we amass knowledge and deepen our understanding, but we never get around to using it. When we have become really mature and can see round about us in every direction, old age is upon us, and it is too late. It is nature's waste of powers, its extravagant squandering of treasure. We give our attention to all the small problems of life, but the great ones, the laws that shape life inexorably, we let lie, pretending that they don't exist."

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## Sea Gulls

By CATHERINE PARMENTER

**W**INGING your way above  
 The vast and potent tide,  
 Are you the spirits of  
 Ships that have died?  
 Young ships lost in the night,  
 And mocked by storms and shoals . . .  
 You in your sea-born flight,  
 Are you their souls?

Now in a dreamless sleep,  
 So still—so young—they lie . . .  
 And yet your wild wings sweep  
 The northern sky  
 To lift above the sea  
 Each white and perfect arc—  
 And youth's eternity  
 Out of the dark!

Against the blue that dips  
 To meet blue symmetry:  
 Spirits of young lost ships  
 Set free—set free!

## A Prince of the Palette

*By* HOLGER LUNDBERGH

**S**WEDEN is fortunate in that the most inspired interpreter of the Swedish landscape in oil, pastel, and water color in the last century is a member of the royal house, Prince Eugen, a brother of King Gustaf.

While his many and distant travels have resulted in scores of splendid paintings, he is, first, last, and always, a truthful and poetical



*Herbert*

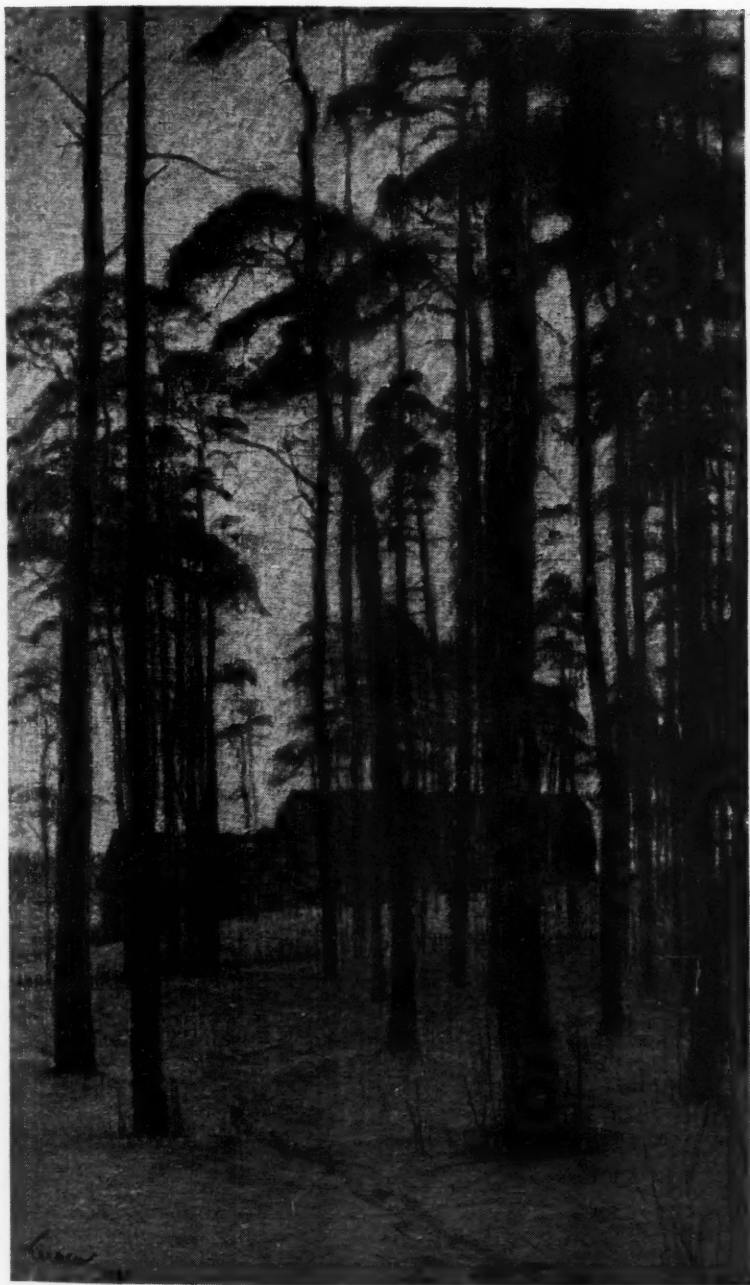
PRINCE EUGEN AMONG HIS FLOWERS

depicter of Swedish nature. Since 1885, when at the age of twenty he settled for the first time before his easel, his brush has caught the magnificent vistas of a landscape that is unforgettably Swedish.

On his canvases are found all the shifting values of spring and winter, of summer and fall. The thin April air in an Uppland birch grove, and the dramatic autumn storms of the Östergötland plains; the death-stillness of December among the leafless oaks of the Djurgården park, in Stockholm, and the afterglow of a warm July night, illumining a stretch of opalescent water on which white excursion boats float by like slow-moving swans.

It is possible that his travels to far corners of the earth have helped him in his true interpretation of the Swedish landscape. He has been able to weigh and compare, and to set down with more unerring artistic certainty the glamour and stern beauty of his own country.

His first longer journey, in 1885, brought him to the Orient, and since then he has paid repeated visits to Italy, France, and Greece. It



AN OLD FAVORITE IS *Där skogan glesnar* WITH A RED EVENING SKY SEEN BEHIND TALL, DARK TRUNKS. PAINTED BY THE PRINCE IN 1892, IT BECAME KNOWN EVERYWHERE THROUGH REPRODUCTION IN CHRISTMAS ANNUALS, AND HAS BEEN HUNG IN HUNDREDS OF HOMES, NOT ONLY IN SWEDEN AND NORWAY, BUT IN AMERICA AS WELL



OSCAR BJÖRCK'S FAMOUS PORTRAIT OF HIS ROYAL FELLOW ARTIST, PRINCE EUGEN  
*In the National Museum*

was at the international exposition in Paris, in 1889, that his début was made with three small paintings. Only a few years later, after studies at home and abroad, Prince Eugen emerged as a true artist of individual talent.

It is only natural that a man of his versatility should be eager to try several mediums in painting, and in 1904 he executed a large mural in the Norra Latin school in Stockholm. In 1909 he made a splendid decoration in the Royal Dramatic Theater, and this was followed in 1910 by another similar work of impressive power, *The Sun Shines over the City*, in the Östermalms High School, also in the capital. Two years later he made a beautiful altarpiece for the church of Kiruna, in Swedish Lapland, and in 1922 he finished an alfresco series for the new City Hall in Stockholm. It depicts various parts of Stockholm, seen across a foreground of water, and its beauty of composition and color is striking and original.

The vitality of his nature, as fresh and buoyant today as it was thirty years ago, is shown in the great interest he takes in modern painters. His private gallery in Stockholm contains many brilliant pictures by revolutionary young artists whose allegiances are anything but academic. He enjoys their work and invites their company. And far from allowing his own production to settle in established grooves, Prince



Eugen is constantly seeking new expressions, achieving new happy results.

Painting became the field in which he triumphed, but he might have become a good writer. His speeches are full of a kindly humor, they reveal an erudite and intensely vital mind, a happy blend of Gallic impulsiveness and Nordic deliberation. His intimate contacts with the Swedish Handicraft Association, with the society "The Culture of the People," and with a multitude of other historical and artistic associations have been of an inestimable value to them.

Last summer the Vadstena monastery church celebrated its five hundredth anniversary, on which occasion the Prince delivered a truly inspired address, showing how thorough was his knowledge of the medieval era in Sweden. Recently, in London, at the opening of a Swedish industrial art exhibition, he demonstrated his familiarity with the past and present history of Sweden's applied art. "In Sweden," he said, "we regard this art as truly democratic. The fundamental principle is to introduce beauty and comfort in the homes of all classes of people."

But his interest covers more subjects than those enumerated. During my visit with him last summer he dwelt with fine understanding on a multitude of topics. He is an accomplished student of European politics, and drew many swift, incisive pictures of conditions on the Continent. He follows closely contemporary literature, and spoke with intimate knowledge of the modern American writers. The theater and the movies delight him, and many were the Broadway successes that



TYPICAL OF THE MOOD IN MANY OF PRINCE EUGEN'S PAINTINGS IS THIS "SUMMER NIGHT," ONE OF HIS BEST KNOWN CANVASES, IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

he had either seen in translation on the Stockholm stage or read in the original. Travel is one of his hobbies, and we became temporarily lost in Assisi, or Amiens, or Avon.

In fact, his versatility covers so much ground that did not the position of being a prince and the profession of a painter claim most of his time and interest, he might have filled many other niches. He has, for instance, the necessary qualities of a newspaper editor, deep knowledge, balance, a keen memory, and a live inquisitiveness. His interest in the press is not merely that of a layman. The great newspapers of the world are well known to him, and when you hear him discuss foreign cable news, headlines, editorials, make-up, and features, you realize that he has made a study of the international press and that his respect for the Fourth Estate is genuine.

There is, also, architecture. He did not design Valdemarsudde, his cream-white house, beautifully placed on a promontory in the Stockholm harbor, shaded by the ancient oaks of the Djurgården park. Ferdinand Boberg built it, but the practical and artistic touches of Prince Eugen are everywhere noticeable. He did, however, draw all the plans, sketch the exterior, and select the material for his summer home, Örgården.

This small, idyllic retreat lies on the fertile, historic plain in the province of Östergötland, which borders Lake Vättern. From the open breakfast-porch you look across the green-gold fields towards the ever changing face of the restless lake, of which it is said that it has a subterranean connection with Lake Constance, in Switzerland. You are never able to forget that this is the home of song and saga, of ancient viking deeds and early Christian martyrdom. Not far away lie the ruins of Alvastra convent, and you feel that the very ground you tread stirs in its slumber.

The landscape, too, helps to bring out this quality of romance and glamour. It is wide and dramatic, rich in color, strong in values, with an atmosphere at once Nordic and tropical. Here the architect, Prince Eugen, built the perfect summer home for Prince Eugen, the painter.

In so far as the field of applied art is concerned, he has made generous contributions to it. His compositions in ceramics, glass, and metals are of a graceful, sober design, combining artistic charm with pleasant usefulness. Music, too, has its strong appeal to him, and he seldom misses a concert by the Stockholm Symphony Orchestra.

When it comes to flowers I hesitate in calling his love for every growing thing a "hobby." He has the artist's instinctive sureness in decorating his "flower room" at Valdemarsudde or his low-ceilinged drawing room at Örgården with plants from his gardens and hot-

houses. But he has also the understanding and experience of a seasoned horticulturist, and I have heard it said that if a flower refuses to grow under the friendly care of Prince Eugen it will not bloom anywhere.

The real or fancied "democracy" of a crowned person is a topic on which reams have been written. With Prince Eugen this humanism comes as natural as his appreciation of colors and values. It is not a dressed-up attitude which has to do with patting children on the head or shaking the toil-worn hand of an occasional farmer. The only time his servants leave his employ is when the Prince retires them with a handsome old-age pension, and there are few of the peasants living around Örgården whom he does not know by name.

When he was working on the City Hall frescoes, time forbade him to motor home for lunch. Every morning he carried a basket with him and joined the carpenters and plasterers in their noon-day meal. When I first visited Örgården, the place was not quite finished, and the Prince took great delight in working several hours each day with a gang of masons who were paving the yard with flagstones. And if he is on a motor tour at home or abroad, his concern for his chauffeur is as great as that for his guests. In these days, when the gifts of the head seem to outbalance the virtues of the heart in people's estimation, it is beautiful to realize that with his great talents Prince Eugen combines a gracious and sincere love for mankind. In the best sense of the word, he is a kind man.

I like to think of him as I last saw him, at Örgården. As always, he had risen early, and when I came down for breakfast, he entered the porch with his arms full of flowers. What kind they were I do not remember, but they had opened that very morning, and he was happy to see how well they had grown. He told an amusing incident of having helped the gardener to chase off a neighbor's bull calf that had ventured too close to his rose hedges, and when we sat down to fruits and porridge and coffee he commented upon an editorial in a Stockholm paper, which he had read long before I was up.

That evening Verner von Heidenstam came over from his beautiful Övralid for dinner. Count Albert Ehrensvärd, Sweden's minister to Paris, was also present, a man of great charm and erudition. My mother and I completed the list of guests. Four hours we sat at dinner. I cannot remember having had a more scintillating, truly delightful evening. Heidenstam spoke in his brilliant language about the Swedish Academy. Ehrensvärd talked of Rome and Paris. Travels, books, plays, art, politics came up for discussion, and I was again amazed at the great store of knowledge of the Prince, his fine perception, and his delightful gift as a listener and conversationalist.

All these qualities, however, are still but undertones, but a background to his profession. Now, at an age at which many creative artists are gently applying the brakes, the Prince goes undaunted, successful, on his way, still eager to learn, to delve, to apply his new discoveries. Youthful and enthusiastic, he has just opened a one-man show in Paris, where he last exhibited in 1929. Nearly a hundred paintings, mainly of Swedish scenes, are collected. And when the canvases are again back in his Valdemarsudde gallery, new works will have been created, the foundation for another exhibit, five, ten years hence.



THE QUIET POOL, BY PRINCE EUGEN



# Hans Goul and His Kin

By MARIE BREGENDAHL

*Translated from the Danish by LIDA SIBONI HANSON*

JENS NINE-FINGERS was long and lanky, and carried himself on a pair of crooked legs. His gait was fast but uneven; it was slunt-a-slant, as people thereabouts expressed it, humpy and dumpy.

His tools were slung over his shoulder: a "beetle," a hammer, and a one-legged stool. He was a paver, and his territory was Intrup parish and vicinity.

Jens Nine-Fingers was scarcely good-looking; he had a large and fleshy nose, a low forehead, and sun-bleached stringy hair as stiff as the bristles of a boar. But everything in this world is relative, and thus also Jens Nine-Fingers' beauty. Those who saw him beside his wife Dorothy were quite reconciled to him and thought he was really smart-looking.

Dorothy, however, had other assets: she was born on a large farm and was related to all the élite of Intrup parish. That was a mighty good thing for her, and she duly appreciated it; her kinspeople, though, were less appreciative. No one ever heard any of them brag of the relationship. On the contrary, it was on several occasions emphasized that she was not of *near* kin. She was first cousin to some, second or third cousin to others, that was all.

They were a little queer, both Jens and Dorothy; that was easy to see.

Dorothy was always on the go, carrying a huge milk-pail in one hand and a beggar's wallet as big as a trunk in the other. Thus equipped she went around "visiting" her fine relatives, and she knew exactly what she wanted them to put into her appurtenances; the pail would hold ten quarts of milk, but it must *not* be skimmed—skimmed milk was for calves

and pigs, she said, and she hadn't any—and the wallet was for pork and sausage and mutton. Of course she and Jens also needed bread and flour and meal, but those "dry" victuals could be bought at the store, she explained; so it was much easier to give her a few pennies and let her buy them herself.

That is what it meant to get a visit from Dorothy. And that was not all—she wanted to be treated to a meal right then and there.

"What! Don't you give your own kin a better reception?" she would say. "Don't you set the table for your guests, and treat them to food and coffee?"

She knew exactly how things ought to be, and she knew too that it was advisable to reach a farm when the servants had just come in for a meal and the good food had been put on the table for them. No one cared to have her talk too loudly of belonging to the family.

When it came to food and presents, Jens was much easier to get along with. At the least suggestion of his having come from a feast here and there, at Paul Tang's, Niels Blidegaard's, Jesper Goul's or some other magnate's in the vicinity, Jens went into the trap at once and began to boast about all the grand food that he had partaken of which had filled him so thoroughly that he couldn't possibly eat another bite.

Poor Jens often made a slip like that, and had to go away with a dry mouth and an empty stomach because of his irrepresible love of bragging.

But once it came to pass that he and Dorothy bragged in unison. Unfortunately, Jens had happened to appropriate some chickens and a few sheep which he

had given Dorothy for her frying-pan and empty meat-barrel.

So he was sent away for a couple of years, to Horsens or Vridsløselille or wherever it was. Dorothy, too, left the village, spending the time of his absence in the poorhouse of her home parish.

When Jens returned, of course Dorothy came too, and both were enthusiastic about all they had learned where they had been. They did not in any way hide the nature of their temporary retreats, but they tried to change people's ideas about the advantage of visiting these places. Certainly those were institutions to which you ought to send your grown sons and daughters, to have them learn manners. That was much better than to send them to agricultural schools and high schools and all those over-praised places.

As far as Dorothy was concerned, there might be some truth in this. She had been employed in the manager's kitchen, and had among other things learned to make rum pudding and jellied custards. The people of Intrup were soon instructed about the number of eggs needed for these delicacies. Dorothy put a little separate pocket into her big wallet, which could hold ten eggs. Neither more nor less.

For many years Jens and Dorothy had made life a burden for the people of Intrup. It was said that the food which Dorothy had dragged home during these years would have been enough to feed an army of soldiers, and that all the yards of pavement which Jens claimed to have laid would have covered the whole parish without leaving a foot of soil for grain or pastures.

The two of them got along very well with each other. They lived in an old hut at the edge of the parish, and no quarrels were ever heard by passers-by. A piece of sandy soil belonged to the house. They could have kept both a cow and a sheep if they had made the effort to cultivate the lot, but that was too much for them. Occasionally they did plant some rye or a little buckwheat or a few potatoes; but that

was all, and it was by no means every year.

Jens and Dorothy were trash and rubbish, and would never be anything else.

A stranger had come to Intrup, a grand gentleman with a high silk hat and a fur coat and a gold-knobbed cane.

He was the son from Storgaard, Hans Goul. He had been away for more than twenty years, the last of which he had spent in Australia. No one knew what he had been doing, but he must have made a pile of money, judging by the handsome amount he had deposited in the bank of the nearest town.

He was a son of the great Jesper Goul, and thus belonged in the circle of the richest and highest esteemed peasant families in the parish. So now the fatted calf was killed for the home-coming of the rich son, guests were invited, and at the banquet one and the other of the guests rose and made speeches for him. He had been away for many years, they said, and very little had been known about him during his absence; but now it was evident that he had not been loafing, for everyone could see that he had returned as a great man. His relatives had every reason to feel proud of this, knowing that he came from capable and decent folks.

Members of the Goul family had a very glib tongue; they were used to attention whenever they opened their mouths, they were represented in the upper as well as the lower house of the Rigsdag, and could boast of both a minister and a sexton.

Towards the end of the meal Hans rose and expressed his thanks—a little drily, people thought, and his smile seemed a little wry, but what of it? Evidently he hadn't earned his money by his gift of gab.

All wanted to drink his health and chat with him and ask him questions, and the whole party was animated and very successful.

Towards evening Hans saw his chance

to withdraw from the crowd. He had lighted a cigar and gone out into the garden to enjoy a moment of peace and quiet. Here he was found by his cousin, Hans Blidegaard, and as the two cousins sat smoking on the garden fence in the calm September evening, Hans Goul suddenly felt the need of unburdening his mind. The two men were of the same age, and had been close friends in their young days. Now they had also this in common, that both had been abroad and for many years given their work to other nations.

"Do you know who was in my mind this whole evening?" Hans Goul asked his cousin.

No, the latter didn't know.

"Dorothy and Jens Nine-Fingers. They have been shamefully left out of all this nonsense about our great and glorious family. They belong to it, don't they, and I confess that I have been itching to mention the fact. Haw, haw, haw!" He laughed heartily to his namesake with a strange inward chuckle.

And then he told his cousin the following.

About fifteen or sixteen years ago he had been in Tomsk, running a business with Finnish butter and Russian eggs. For a time he had been successful, then the business had become very uncertain and had caused him much anxiety, and at last it had gone all to pieces. He had worked like mad to keep things going and avoid bankruptcy, and had hardly had any sleep or rest. He had tried to work four, five, or six hours after closing time, had locked up his storerooms at midnight in order to ponder over his accounts, and had, after a few hours' rest, been the first man in the office next morning.

That kind of life eats one's strength away, and at last he had had so much worry that he couldn't sleep a wink.

Then he realized that bankruptcy was at his door.

However, he had been fortunate enough to sell his business and to clear the greater part of his debts.

During the settlement he had discovered that one of his business connections had deceived him shamefully, lying and cheating in the meanest way—but, of course, legally the man was unassailable.

One evening he met this man and gave him a piece of his mind. But the scoundrel merely grinned mockingly and brutally, straight in his face.

That was more than he could stand at that moment. Toil and lack of sleep had affected his nerves so badly that he could not control himself.

He gave the fellow such a knock in the jaw that he fell and broke his leg.

Then Hans Goul was put into prison.

"Well," he said, "under other circumstances I could have pulled through much better than I did, and perhaps have gotten off with a fine, for the judge evidently sided with me. But of course I had no money, and down and out as I was, everything went wrong. The least trifle excited and frightened me; I wept for nothing and made scenes in court and elsewhere."

But it was better not to dwell too long on those troublesome days, he thought.

After about six months he was free to go wherever he liked. That was just before Christmas, and at that time he was about as downhearted as a young man of twenty-seven can be. He had felt it then, and when he thought back, he still felt it.

He hadn't known where to go, but some of his business friends had clubbed together and bought him a ticket to Denmark—in that way they were rid of him, of course.

If it hadn't been so near Christmas, he wouldn't have gone home, no matter how homesick he was. But he did go. It would be so fine, he thought, if his mother would fuss a little over him, now that everything was so cold and dark.

He reached his father's farm two days before Christmas. He had been a deck passenger on a boat across the Kattegat; that was the cheapest way of getting there. And he had walked the eight miles to his home. He reached the farm at twi-

light. The doors to the threshing-floor and the hayloft were wide open, and he saw that all were eager to finish their work with the last rays of daylight, and get to the supper table.

It was twenty-four hours since he had had anything to eat, and he felt faint with hunger. In his mind he saw plainly the big rounds of bread on the table in there—so plainly that he felt like biting into a brick, just to have something between his teeth. But he knew that the Siberian authorities had notified his father about his imprisonment, and this made him hesitate to show himself.

As he heard the servants cross the pavement and go to supper, he caught sight of his father who had stopped in the barn door to twist some fresh straw for his wooden shoes.

Hans didn't make a long story of the conversation between him and his father. The latter knew that his son had been punished, but had probably no idea of the circumstances that might somewhat excuse him, nor of his present destitute condition. And Hans was sure that his father didn't know what it meant to be hungry. He couldn't imagine that his father had ever had that experience. And, in fact, Jesper had not broached those questions at all, but had with great eloquence informed his son that he was deeply ashamed of him and did not want him inside of his house. Jesper assured him that he was ashamed, not only for himself but for the whole family, and gave the names of their long row of kinsfolk. He explained that even if there was probably no hope for his son ever to be more than a good-for-nothing, he would like to believe that he still had family pride enough to keep away from the parish, and not bring sorrow and shame to so many honorable and esteemed people.

"There," said Jesper, and handed him a fifty kroner bill. "That is enough for your fare out of the country. Now get away as soon as you can."

He had finished twisting the straw and

when he had placed it in his wooden shoes, he shut the door and went away, without any handshake or good-bye or anything of the sort.

"I don't know what kind of meat the servants had with their bread and butter," said Hans Goul to his cousin, "but I was almost certain that I could smell lamb sausage. I also thought that my mother was making hogshead cheese, which she had her own way of seasoning."

At last Hans Goul had realized that it was useless to stand here in his father's yard and sniff the air. The doors were locked. It was hard, certainly, but his father had not in vain appealed to his family pride; in his heart Hans agreed with him.

He sauntered across his father's fields to the end of the parish. When he came to the creek, he stopped and leaned against the railing of the bridge.

"I remember very well what I thought when I stood there with the rippling water under me," said Hans.

"But of course you know that at the very blackest moment something or other may suddenly turn up and make you look at life from another angle. All at once it occurred to me that when my father had named the long row of fine relatives, he had forgotten one: Jens Nine-Fingers' Dorothy. I burst out laughing, Hans Blidegaard, and I think that laughter saved me.

"I turned round and discovered a light which I thought might be Dorothy's, and the idea came to me to set my course for that little light. Who knew? Perhaps my kinswoman Dorothy would be rather more moderate in her demands on family loyalty than my father and the others."

But Hans Goul never found that out, for neither Jens nor Dorothy recognized him. He remembered them so clearly from his childhood; but they had not seen him since he went to the village school, and since then he had gone to high school and trades school and been in Siberia, so as likely as not there was but little left of



the village boy. Naturally, Jens and Dorothy were not among the relatives on whom he had called when he came home during holidays, nor among those who had been invited to parties with him. He had grown a large beard and had begun, as Dorothy had expressed it, "to be baldheaded in the neck."

"No, they didn't recognize me," said Hans, "but they received me cordially. They gave me food and beer and coffee, as much as I could do away with, and let me stay overnight. And when they heard that I was poor and homeless, they insisted that I should stay over Christmas. They were Christian folk, they said, and I must not for a minute think that they would turn a homeless person out right before the holidays."

"So I stayed."

"While abroad I had many times longed for my mother's raised cake. Well, Dorothy didn't belong to the family for nothing; when I mentioned the fine cake I had had in my childhood, she was quite eager to make one for me. And since the only thing to prevent her was that she didn't have all the ingredients, I advised her to go over to the fine red farm by the plantation and ask for a few things for her cake; they would be sure to give her what she needed. I also suggested that she try to make them give her some of their brawn. I had passed the farm at suppertime, I said, and I thought I had smelled some unusually fine brawn."

"Haw, haw!" Hans Goul was still laughing with his deep, half-suppressed

chuckle that sounded so sly and good-natured. He puffed briskly at his cigar, the smoke of which lay like a bluish veil over the leaves of the ash nearby. "Haw, haw!"

"But I can tell you this much, Cousin Hans, that since then I have not been inclined to judge my fellow-men severely. I learned then that the time might come for any of us when we would be glad to hide in some obscure corner. I also learned what a great relief it was to play a little successful trick on somebody in the midst of one's troubles.—Haw, haw!—I tell you, Hans, that puts one immediately on a level with the 'broad masses of the people.'—Haw, haw, haw!"

Soon after, Hans Goul rose from the fence, and flung the end of his cigar away in a big curve.

"Listen, Hans, why not take a little walk, the two of us, and call on our relatives, Jens and Dorothy, who have been so shamefully neglected here this evening?—What do you say, Hans?—We, the two foreign cousins?"

Hans Blidegaard smiled understandingly and was more than ready to go along.

"When we go across the fields, we'll soon be there.—You see, I should like in some quiet way to give them my thanks for their hospitality. Haw, haw!" He was still chuckling.

A moment later the two cousins were seen arm in arm on their way towards the swamp houses.

## The National Theater in Oslo

*Photographs and Notes by*

AAGE REMFELDT

ONE of the last premières in the season that has just passed in Oslo was *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Ragnhild Hald as Puck. This young actress, whose successful début at the National Theater as Maggie in *Worthy Folk* by Oscar Braaten was mentioned a few months ago, does not possess a sufficiently strong personality to fuse the different parts of Shakespeare's comedy into a unified whole. Involuntarily many in the audience called to mind the Puck which Johanne Dybwad gave us once upon a time.



UNNI TORKILDSSEN AS LYDIA  
IN "ONE, TWO, THREE"



RAGNHILD HALD AS PUCK IN "A MID-SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"



GUNNAR TOLNÆS AS SIR BASIL WINTERTON  
IN "THE BACHELOR FATHER"

During the Christmas holidays there was a première of Franz Molnar's two one-act plays, *Souper* and *One, Two, Three*, staged by Björn Björnson. The double bill drew a good house for fifty performances, due especially to the excellent performance of *One, Two, Three*, in which the rôle of Norrison acted with masterly skill by David Knudsen overshadowed everything else. Unni Thorkildsen played Lydia, the leading feminine part, with such charm and vivacity that she thereby won for herself a place as one of the very first artists of the National Theater.

In January the National Theater produced for the first time Shaw's *The Apple-cart* under the name *Keiseren av Amerika*. Halfdan Christensen had staged the play—somewhat in the spirit of Max

Reinhard—and himself took the part of the future "emperor." The leading woman character, Orinthia, as played by Aase Bye, was purely a Reinhard type.

Beginning March 11, Gunnar Tolnæs has been giving a guest rôle at the National Theater as Sir Basil Winterton in *The Bachelor Father*. This merry farce has been running for six evenings out of seven, while on the seventh the stage has been dominated by Johanne Dybwad as Lady Inger in Ibsen's *Lady Inger of Østråt*, which she has herself staged.

These are the main lines in the picture. It is the lighter stuff that fills the foreground, while the weightier, artistically more valuable drama is crowded into the background—but the seats in the National Theater are rarely empty.

## Possible Effects of Danish Disarmament

By ERIC CYRIL BELLQUIST

THE DANISH wish for disarmament is partly due to a desire for economy and partly to the feeling that the defenses of the country can, in any event, not be maintained at a level to ensure the security for which they are intended. During the World War Denmark mined the openings of the Baltic and was able to maintain her neutrality. Her action then, however, was probably largely because of pressure on the part of Germany, and it is not too rash to say that unless she had done so herself the Germans would have taken measures to prevent contact between the Russians and British over this route. Even so, it was perhaps only the change of plans on the part of Lord Fisher, who turned to the Dardanelles rather than the Baltic in the spring of 1915, which enabled the Danes to remain out of the maelström.

As a result of the Treaty of Versailles and the plebiscite which followed, northern Slesvig was returned to Denmark, and thereby the whole Little Belt passage became again Danish territorial waters. This change of boundary and the coincident internationalization of the Kiel Canal greatly increased the responsibility of the Danes for guarding the gateway to the Baltic. It is this strategic geographic situation which has been the bone of contention in the arguments about national defense, and which since the heated elections of April 1929 has led to a desire to rid the country of the whole burden, and place the responsibility for maintaining open channels into the Baltic upon the world at large.

The proposed reduction or complete disarmament thus affects not only the international obligations of Denmark under Articles XVI and XVII of the Covenant

of the League of Nations, and also the defensive position of the country in regard to Germany to the south, but the strategic situation of the whole Baltic area. From the point of view of international law there are perhaps also certain obligations which even a neutral State must fulfil, providing it is able to do so. Complete disarmament would incapacitate a State from resisting such encroachments on its neutrality as in this instance are very likely to occur. In this respect it might be pointed out that in all the Scandinavian countries there seems to be a lack of realization that neutrality involves not only a respect of that status by warring powers, but also a duty of the neutral State to prevent its territory and waters from being used for war-like purposes. It was probably this which the government of Mr. MacDonald had in mind when an intimation was given to Denmark that the British were not in favor of any complete disarmament on the part of that country. Of course, this hint was conveyed through the Admiralty and not through "responsible political persons," but it is likely that it was nevertheless not entirely without effect.

Although Denmark's action, whatever it may be, is largely or wholly an internal matter, it is being followed with decided interest in all of the northern European countries. Just as the mere deepening of the Drogden channel south of Copenhagen following the parliamentary resolution in 1923 occasioned strong fears and opposition in both Moscow and Berlin, so this action is closely watched in a number of capitals. Especially in Sweden there are certain parties that entertain considerable apprehension lest the Danes go too far. The Swedes are here in the same position as the Finns were in 1925. At that time the latter feared that the lowering of Swedish armaments would necessitate increased expenditures on their part in order to maintain security. Likewise,

Stockholm now fears that any Danish decrease will react unfavorably upon the security of Sweden.

Without doubt disarmament by Denmark will mean that that country will no longer be in a position to keep open the channels to the Baltic in time of war. Should the Soviets or Germany desire to close them to English or French fleets, there would be no possibility of preventing this. Or should the English wish to force the channels the same would be true. The result might very likely be that the Danish waters would be a scene of battle, and that neutrality on the part of any or all of the Scandinavian powers would become impossible. Conservative interests in Sweden are very likely to interpret this new status as forcing them to assume the burden until now carried by Denmark. In any case the strategic position of Sweden will be considerably more difficult. To a much lesser extent this is also true of Norway and the other Baltic nations.

The whole question of Danish disarmament thus brings up a number of points hitherto not sufficiently considered. A policy of isolated action is likely to bring repercussions in other countries. This is but one other illustration of a need for a common policy in this matter by the northern States. Such a policy was followed during the earlier years of the World War and enabled Scandinavia to remain outside of that conflict. Such a policy was also evidenced by a more or less united front on the part of these countries during their first few years at Geneva. In more recent years, however, it has not been so evident save along economic and cultural lines. The respective foreign offices have shown less foresight here than have many private individuals and organizations which have done much to unite northern Europe in the cultural and intellectual spheres.



# CURRENT EVENTS



## U · S · A ·

¶ Whatever may be the result of President Hoover's visit to the Caribbean possessions, it would seem that his personal observations and interest in the islanders would have an encouraging effect on the future economics of both Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands. According to the President himself, the outstanding impression he received from his receptions at the various points in Porto Rico was that the people were satisfied with being under the jurisdiction of the United States and that Governor Theodore Roosevelt was having the cooperation of the Porto Ricans in their efforts for self-dependence. However, the Federal government is ready to extend all possible aid to Porto Rico for the purpose of the island's recovery from the 1929 hurricane. Such aid would naturally go to the improvement in the agricultural situation. ¶ With regard to the Virgin Islands it appears from what the President said about these acquisitions that their economic outlook is less promising than that of Porto Rico. As a matter of fact, he termed the purchase of the three islands from Denmark for \$25,000,000 unfortunate except from a strictly naval standpoint. Calling the islands nothing less than "an effective poorhouse, comprising 90 per cent of the population," President Hoover asserted that the people cannot be self-supporting either in living or government without discovery of new resources. The reason for the change of jurisdiction from the naval to a civil department is to see if industry can be better developed through the transfer. And, added the President, "having assumed the responsibilities we must do our best to assist the inhabitants." ¶ Political Washington, even while the Halls of Congress are closed, is busy with predictions as to what is to happen in the com-

ing year. The fact that the Illinois State Legislature has repealed the State's prohibition enforcement code is considered significant. Illinois is now the sixth commonwealth to repeal its dry code, the others being New York, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Montana, and Nevada. According to the 1930 census the non-enforcement States have a population of 29,917,003 out of a total of 122,775,046 for the entire country. Speculation is rife as to what this will mean to the Presidential election and the dry and wet situation. ¶ That the issue between the Republican and Democratic parties has been further intensified by the New York Legislature ordering a thorough investigation of the New York City government is natural. Added to the investigations already under way in the office of District Attorney Crain and the magistrates' courts, where startling revelations have been made, the action of the New York Legislature is in a measure a direct thrust at Tammany Hall and those uppermost in its affairs. It appears also that all of these various inquiries will have for their chief prosecutor Judge Samuel Seabury. Predictions are freely made that the matter will prove a long-drawn-out affair and that a battle royal is at hand between the opposing political forces. As mayor of New York, James J. Walker is also made a target for investigations. ¶ According to reports of the State Department at Washington, by the application of the "public charge" provisions of the immigration laws nearly 100,000 aliens who would have been admissible under normal business conditions have been kept out of the United States in the government's efforts to relieve the unemployment situation. This record is for the five months to March 1. In twenty-one countries of Europe whose annual quotas are fixed at 148,466, only 10,277 received visas. In the five months after the President's order

less than 4,000 non-quota visas were issued to Canadians and less than 900 to Mexicans as against a total of more than 61,000 in the fiscal year of 1930. ¶ The question of wheat and wheat prices is once more a pertinent one both to the farmers and the politicians. The problem presented is what the Federal Farm Board expects to do with its vast stores of wheat acquired through its stabilization operations. Senator William E. Borah states that the unloading of what is estimated to be more than 200,000,000 bushels of wheat will not only greatly depress the market but embarrass the farmer in the matter of credits with the local banks. The Idaho senator suggests that the Farm Board should not put the wheat on the market until the world price reaches \$1.50 a bushel. As for stabilizing the 1931 crop, that is not to be expected, declares the Board, which adds that the farmer has the choice of either limiting production or accepting the prevailing world price. ¶ The tributes paid to the memory of Knute Rockne, Notre Dame's famous football coach, who with seven fellow passengers was killed when a mail plane plunged to the ground in southeastern Kansas, exceeded anything known to the history of athletics. The entire nation joined in praising his achievements, not only for what he himself accomplished in raising the game to what is well nigh an art, but with regard to his training of other football coaches. It would require relating the history of football from the time Knute Rockne entered upon the scene until his untimely death robbed the sport of its outstanding figure, in order to sum up what he meant to both players and those who delight in witnessing clean athletics. ¶ Knute Rockne was born in Voss, Norway, 43 years ago, and came to Chicago with his parents when a small boy. From an early age he had to look after himself, and after taking to football finally became coach for the team at the Notre Dame University in South

Bend, Indiana. Rockne was always proud of his Norwegian descent, and spoke the language as a native. When King Haakon of Norway bestowed on him the order of St. Olav he added to this distinction by ordering Olaf Bernts, the Norwegian Consul at Chicago, to attend the funeral at South Bend with a delegation of six Norwegians as a further mark of esteem, and in recognition of a career that stands without its parallel in that particular direction. President Hoover's message of condolence to Mrs. Rockne speaks for itself where it says: "I know that every American grieves with you. Mr. Rockne so contributed to cleanliness and high purpose and sportsmanship in athletics that his passing is a national loss." That the American newspapers covered pages with what Knute Rockne accomplished meant that the news of his death and labors took precedence over any other occurrence in the day's happenings.



## NORWAY

¶ Whaling, the youngest of Norway's industries, is facing a crisis, the outcome of which is wrapped in an impenetrable mist of uncertainty and pessimism. Hard on the heels of the decision by a number of whaling companies to interrupt the whaling season at once due to the heavy overproduction, comes a cable from Sandefjord, stronghold of whaling magnates, saying that the Norwegian whaling companies have decided to call a halt, at least temporarily, in the hunting of whales in the Antarctic. No ships will set out for the south during the season of 1931-32, unless unexpected changes are effected on the world market for whale oil. The decision by the whaling companies has caused lament throughout the land of Norway, and is giving the government grave concern. If the great fleet is idle next season, more than ten thousand men will be added to the already alarming number of unemployed. This

army of workers are affected directly by the whaling industry, but to the ten thousand must be added the innumerable branches of industry which have worked hand in hand with the whaling interests. The season recently completed has been the richest in history. The total catch amounts to more than three million barrels of oil; some estimate it as close to four million. Of this some 700,000 barrels have not been sold. They will be stored on board the giant whalers. Back of the decision to withdraw the Norwegian whalers from the Antarctic is seen the hand of the Margarine Trust, which has informed the Norwegian whaling companies that it cannot contract for oil next season owing to the overproduction of oil now on hand. Leaders of the Norwegian whaling industry have been reticent in their comment on the outlook, giving only sparse expression to the belief that everything will be straightened out before fall, when the ships ordinarily go south. A sharp decline in whaling stocks has been noticed during the last weeks on Oslo Børs. ¶ Captain Daehli, Norwegian government whaling inspector, has returned to Oslo after having visited the herding grounds of the South Atlantic. He claims to have discovered a hitherto unknown land with lofty peaks in the Antarctic regions. The land, according to Captain Daehli, is situated between longitudes 27 and 72 west. He has noted the exact position of the new territory on maps, and he has also taken photographs, but so far he has refused to divulge its exact position. All details and documents have been handed to the Norwegian government. ¶ Eight persons perished in the wreck of the Norwegian steamship *Hera* which crashed on the rocks off Hammerfest during a snow storm. The missing included an eight-year-old girl and four stewardesses. At least 54 persons, passengers and members of the crew, fought their way to safety, most of them swimming to shore despite the freezing water.

A breeches buoy was rigged, after several attempts, for removal of the passengers. Six persons fell from the buoy and were drowned. Another died of exhaustion. Heroic bravery was shown by the mate of the wrecked ship, Einar Ramm. ¶ The question of sovereignty over East Greenland has been troubling the otherwise amicable relations between Denmark and Norway. The nucleus of the dispute is the treaty between the two countries, of 1924, in which provisions were made for the activities of both in the eastern part of the island, but no definite solution was made of the principle of sovereignty. Denmark has since claimed sovereignty over the disputed section, whereas Norway repeatedly has held that it is a no-man's land. In a speech before the Storting the Norwegian premier, Johan Ludwig Mowinckel, maintained Norway's legal right to settle on the coast of East Greenland and utilize whatever resources are found there. Mr. Mowinckel furthermore declared that, if the sovereignty of East Greenland were to be given to any country, it should be given to Norway. He suggested that the dispute be brought before the International Court of Arbitration at The Hague. Premier Mowinckel's suggestion has since been taken up by Premier Stauning of Denmark, who stated that the Danish government would abide by any decision rendered by the international court "to put an end to this eternal strife." ¶ The unemployment situation in Norway generally culminates in February, followed by a seasonal improvement during spring. The number of unemployed persons in excess of vacant positions recorded by the official employment bureaus was 29,107 in February and 25,596 in January. The industrial activity is still under the influence of the world-wide depression. It is difficult to find markets for products, and many factories have curtailed their operations. The shipping situation remains depressed. The idle tonnage of Norway

amounted to 1,162,670 tons at the end of February. No immediate relief is in sight; long-term charterings have been made at rates which are indicative of a depression of long duration. ¶ The Department of Social Welfare has, through the Norwegian-American weekly, *Nordisk Tidende*, issued a warning to Norwegians residing in the United States against returning to Norway to seek employment. Unless they have money enough to set themselves up in business, they must be prepared to join the army of unemployed. ¶ Frida Hansen, the eminent Norwegian weaver of tapestries, is dead in Oslo, 76 years old. She was regarded as a pioneer in the modern art of weaving, and her work brought her world-wide fame. ¶ Norwegian manufacturers of aluminum have found a new outlet for their products in Russia. Contracts for a total sale of 11,500 tons of aluminum have been signed at a price of fifteen million kroner. ¶ Sonja Henie, the graceful world champion figure skater, has received an offer from America to become a professional entertainer on ice. According to the latest reports, Miss Henie most likely will accept the offer, but not till she has defended her championship at the Olympic games at Lake Placid in 1932.



## SWEDEN

¶ Defeat of the Stockholm Communists and Conservatives alike, and a noticeable advance of the moderate Social-Democratic Labor Party, characterized the outcome of the elections to the City Council or board of aldermen. The middle ground Liberals held their own, the Governmental faction losing but one seat, while the Social-Democrats advanced from 43 to 52 places, thus capturing control of the Council without the aid of the Communists, who were set back from nine to five places. The outcome has been interpreted in the Swedish press as foreshadowing a gain for the Social-Democrats, which

means organized labor, in the national elections to be held in the fall of next year. In 1928 this party lost several members in the Swedish Riksdag, but made significant recoveries in the elections to the provincial legislatures last fall. Its aim is now to capture an absolute majority in the national parliament in 1932. The defeat of the Conservatives and the Communists was partly explained by the splits in their ranks. On the question of fealty to the Third International and contacts with the Russian Reds in general, the Swedish Communists divided about a year ago, but the faction that stayed loyal to the Soviets will now have but one seat in the Stockholm City Council. A group of dissidents in the Conservative party, which broke away just before the election, also failed to elect a single representative, but the intra-party quarrel was blamed for the poor showing of the majority faction which lost five seats. More youthful and vigorous leadership has been demanded by the dissatisfied Conservatives. Another extremist faction which made its appearance for the first time but failed to make a showing was that of the National Socialists. The membership is apparently limited to high-school boys, for in the election only 280 votes were cast for the Fascist candidates. ¶ Instead of increasing the import duties on sugar as proposed by the Conservative party and the Agricultural Union, the Swedish Riksdag has voted to give the domestic beet growers a direct subsidy amounting to 3,800,000 kronor per year. The counter proposal of the Conservatives for an increase in the import duties of from ten to eighteen öre per kilogram would have cost the consumers from 17,000,000 to 18,000,000 kronor per year, argued the Popular-Liberal Minister of Finance, Felix T. Hamrin, of Jönköping. As a further aid to the Swedish farmers, without increasing import duties, the Government has recommended a continuation for another two years, or until July 31, 1933, of the export premiums on grain



which have been effective since 1926. Their primary purpose is to stabilize grain prices, particularly immediately after the harvest, when owners of flour mills and wholesalers are usually able to buy Swedish rye and wheat at reduced prices. By selling his produce abroad the farmer can get an export certificate worth as much as the import duties would be on a corresponding amount of the same kind of grain. ¶ An exhibition of Swedish industrial and decorative art opened recently in London. Assembled in the newly complete Dorland House, in Regent Street, it is a replica in miniature of the Stockholm Exposition of last year. It was opened by Prince Eugen, who went to London especially for this purpose, and attracted wide and favorable attention. A distinguished list of British and Swedish representatives of government, society, art, and business comprised the patrons and patronesses. King George and Queen Mary attended the opening, and the Queen received a special Orrefors vase as a gift and bought two chairs. ¶ Participation in the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition in 1933 was recommended by a Royal Board of Trade committee which asked the Government to appropriate 1,250,000 kronor. Although certain Swedish export industries are not economically interested because of the present unsettled trade conditions, it was pointed out that Sweden's participation would help to further strengthen the many ties of friendship between Sweden and the United States. The committee suggested the erection of a modern Swedish pavilion of 3,000 square meters floor area, to house special technical and historical exhibits as well as rooms for paintings and industrial art objects. A replica of the "Land of Sweden" building, which proved exceptionally popular at the Stockholm Exposition last year, was also suggested. This exhibit showed Sweden's cultural and material growth from early days to present times by means of charts, maps, and statistics.

¶ Sweden's most drawn-out labor conflict of the current year, affecting more than 34,000 textile workers, was settled when a new agreement was signed between the employers and the workmen. ¶ More than 73,000 foreign tourists visited Stockholm last year, against about 55,000 in 1929, according to official figures. It is estimated that these visitors spent in excess of 7,000,000 kronor in the capital alone. The greatest attraction seemed to be the outdoor museum of Skansen, which was visited by more than one million people, or nearly 300,000 more than the year before. The City Hall was also very popular, registering about 200,000 visitors. Some fifty banquets were given in the famous Golden Room in connection with the many international congresses held in the capital in 1930. The biggest function, for 700 guests, was the dinner given for the former Lord Mayor of London, Sir William Waterlow. ¶ The Swedish Tourist Association, which aims to make Sweden intimately known to the Swedes themselves, reported that it has now more than 126,000 members. It was founded nearly fifty years ago, and in that time it has erected eleven tourist stations in various parts of the country, forty-two cabins, and some twenty Lapp huts in northern Sweden. It also maintains boat traffic on seven rivers, mostly in Lapland. ¶ A cotton parachute invented by S. Kuhlemann, a Stockholm engineer, has been adopted by the air corps of Great Britain, Germany, and Holland. The parachute is so strong that it can withstand a pull of 100 kilograms at a descending speed of 400 kilometers per hour.



## DENMARK

¶ The Folketing having passed the bill abolishing the army and navy, and substituting for these arms of defense a gendarmerie, the question of Scandinavian neutrality in any possible war has become a matter of general discussion in Denmark. As might be expected, the

Conservative party is using the action of the Social-Democratic régime as an argument against disarmament, and not only in Denmark but in the neighboring Scandinavian countries the matter is being discussed as of vital importance. In the *Berlingske Tidende* of Copenhagen there appeared an interview with Prince Aage in which this officer in the Foreign Legion greatly regretted that Denmark was about to disarm. As for Sweden, a number of noted men have been voicing their disapproval of the Danish move as dangerous to the peace of the northern nations. ¶ The interview with Prince Aage was from Paris, and in the course of his talk he stated that he did not believe that permanent peace was as yet possible. "Why," he declared, "on more than one front war lies in wait, and we have no business to expose ourselves needlessly or endanger our neutrality. Although I am a captain in the Foreign Legion I still retain my membership in the Royal Danish Guard. But what does this mean in a country that disarms?" Speaking further of the Foreign Legion and the adventure which attaches to service in Africa, Prince Aage grew enthusiastic and told of the splendid fraternal relationship that existed between the soldiers of so many nationalities. ¶ That Sweden feels keenly the Danish plan to disarm is seen from what Lieutenant J. Akerman, president of Sweden's commission for economic defense, has to say on the subject. "Danish disarmament," he declared, "means nothing else than that Sweden must increase its own measures for an adequate defense of the country. Such isolated disarmament as Denmark proposes violates the decree of the League of Nations which advocates a reduction of armaments, but no such wholesale disarmament as is the Danish plan." ¶ More Swedish opposition to the Danish plan comes from Erik B. Rinman, editor-in-chief of the liberal newspaper, *Stockholms Tidningen*, who enters his objection to Danish disarmament. He is strongly of

the opinion that any national defense defends the peace, and that while he does not feel it proper to tell another country what it should do, still he believes that Scandinavian solidarity is injured when one country takes important action not fully agreed to by the others. ¶ Perhaps of even greater importance than these interviews is that which *Berlingske Tidende* obtained from Sir Austen Chamberlain, the British statesman, who looks upon Danish disarmament as wholly unwarranted. Sir Austen calls attention to England's interests in the Baltic and takes the position that, whenever a nation proceeds on its own account with such a matter as disarmament, it excludes itself from the international circle of peace endeavor. "No nation," he declared, "can stand with folded hands and expect to get the benefit of the League of Nations. As a matter of fact, a Denmark disarmed is a direct invitation to war." ¶ While the international pot is boiling over this Danish proposal, something quite different has been interesting the citizens of Copenhagen. The marriage of Miss Virginia Booth, the daughter of the American Minister to Denmark, to William Dickerman Vogel, proved a social event of the first magnitude and brought to the English Church a distinguished company of guests. The ceremonies also called attention to the popularity of Minister Booth. ¶ The Danish plans for attracting tourists this coming summer are on a more ambitious scale than in former years. Part of the campaign of publicity has been through interesting articles in other countries, calling attention to Denmark's attractions. The handsome posters of last year proved so successful that this means for attracting the outside world is being continued, and the steamship companies and the railroads have given their fullest cooperation in the matter of distribution. Altogether, Denmark is looking forward to a prosperous tourist trade.

# THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,  
by means of an exchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS POULSON, IN 1911

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**Associates:** All who are in sympathy with the aims of the Foundation are invited to become Associates. **Regular Associates**, paying \$3.00 annually, receive the REVIEW. **Sustaining Associates**, paying \$10.00 annually, receive the REVIEW and CLASSICS. **Life Associates**, paying \$100.00 once for all, receive all publications.

## Miss Fröberg Honored

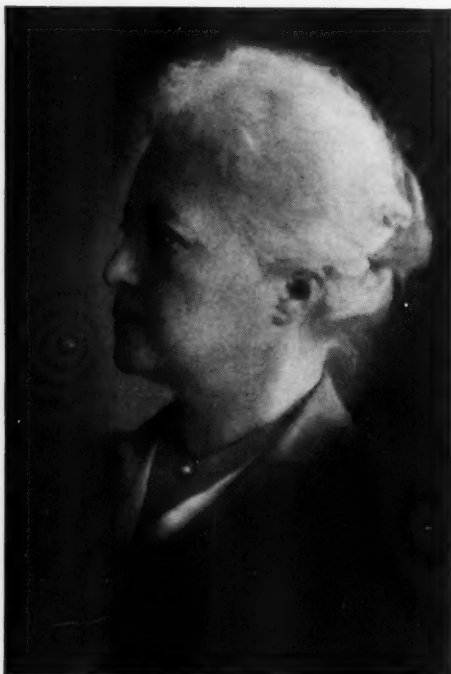
March 27 was the occasion for a "stor fest," when Miss Eva Fröberg, secretary of the Sverige-Amerika-Stiftelse, celebrated her sixtieth birthday. Many friends outside Sweden as well as throughout that country took the opportunity to send greetings in token of their admiration of those sixty years of achievement.

Miss Fröberg's father, a gentleman farmer in Södermanland, died in 1904, leaving the 10,000-acre estate of Sjösa leased for two years, in addition to the family estate of Husby. His daughter Eva assumed the management of all, and that she was unusually successful and commanded the respect of the entire neighborhood is seen in the fact that she was made a member of the Provincial Agricultural Society, the first woman to be honored with an active membership in that organization.

The house at Husby was often merry with friends and neighbors, especially during the long holiday seasons, for its young hostess maintained all of the delightful old Swedish customs. Yet amid the many activities of such an estate she found time for literary effort. The play,

*The Feast of Nyköping*, was written for production by the Agricultural Society on its hundredth anniversary in 1914; later she published a book of verse, *Herrgårdens folk*, or "The Country Gentry," and she is co-author of *The Book of Södermanland*.

In 1917 she moved to Stockholm and soon became active in many of the organizations of that city, among them the Fredrika Bremer League and the National League of Conservative Women, of which she was elected president in 1925. In 1920 she took up the duties of secretary of the Sverige-Amerika-Stiftelse, affiliated with the American Scandinavian Foundation. In this capacity she has helped select nearly two hundred holders of Swedish fellowships, representing every conceivable field of endeavor, and has been hostess for Fellows of the American-Scandinavian Foundation and for members of the Foundation staff in Sweden. Her knowledge of the English language enables her to represent the Stiftelse in America as ably as in Sweden. A few years ago she visited the United States in order to get in closer touch with the American side of the work.



EVA FRÖBERG

Nor does she limit her interests to English-speaking and Scandinavian countries; she speaks French and German and admits that modern French literature and politics are her "hobby." During the past autumn she spent some weeks in France, and probably few foreigners keep in closer touch with that country, both through its literature and through direct observation.

Little wonder that so many wished to honor this woman who, at sixty, looks back over this varied and successful career, and forward in such a wide and interesting field of work.

#### Exhibition of Swedish Architecture

The Exhibition of Modern Swedish Architecture, arranged by the Foundation, opened at the Grand Central Palace in New York on April 18. It formed a section of the larger Architectural and Allied Arts Exhibition. The Swedish Exhibition will be on view at Harvard University during

the early part of May. It is under the patronage of H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Sweden whose special representative, Mr. Ivar Tengbom, architectural adviser to the Swedish Government, came to attend the opening. Mr. Tengbom is one of Sweden's foremost architects.

On April 8 the Architectural League of New York gave a large tea in honor of Mr. Tengbom, and on April 24, a dinner at the Hotel Roosevelt at which the Swedish Minister, Mr. W. Boström, and Consul General Olof H. Lamm were also guests. On the afternoon of the twenty-fourth, a reception was held in the Swedish galleries in the Grand Central Palace at which the speakers were Mr. Tengbom, Mr. Raymond Hood, president of the Architectural League, and Mr. Henry Goddard Leach, president of the Foundation. On April 21, Mr. Tengbom gave a short talk on Swedish architecture over the radio.

While in the United States, Mr. Tengbom will visit Chicago to consult officials of the 1933 Centennial Exposition on the projected Swedish Building.

#### Fellows of the Foundation

Mr. Finn Frost, Fellow of the Foundation from Norway who has been studying with the United States Forestry Service, sailed for home on the S.S. *Stavangerfjord* on March 14.

Mr. V. Gunnar T. Ohland, Fellow of the Foundation from Denmark who has been studying banking at the Bank of America in San Francisco, sailed on the S.S. *American Merchant* on March 27.

Mr. Linton Wilson, Fellow of the Foundation to Sweden, sailed on the M.S. *Gripsholm* on March 28. While in Sweden Mr. Wilson will gather material for a book on modern Swedish architecture which will be eventually published by the Foundation.

Mr. Sten Asklöf, Fellow of the Foundation from Sweden who has been studying astronomy at various observatories in the



United States, sailed on the S.S. *Bergensfjord* on March 25 to take up his duties at the new observatory in Stockholm.

#### Foundation Entertainments

A tea in honor of the Fellows of the Foundation was held in the Schofield Library on Thursday, March 26, and on the evening of Friday, April 11, the last monthly club night of the New York Chapter was held at the Hotel Plaza. The hostesses for the evening were Mrs. Ernst Claussen, and Mrs. Eric A. Löf. The guests of honor were Captain Theodore Claussen, Madame Julia Claussen, and Mr. Ivar Tengbom. A musical program was presented by Greta Skoog, contralto.

#### American Scandinavian Forum

The Forum held its monthly meeting at Phillips Brooks House in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on March 27. Dr. Göran Liljestrand of the Carolinska Institut in Stockholm spoke on "Alfred Nobel and the Nobel Foundation," and Mr. Thure Hulten, tenor, sang Scandinavian songs.

The annual banquet of the Forum was held at the Hotel Commander, Cambridge, on April 24. Professor A. B. Benson of Yale University, was the guest of honor and spoke on "The Scandinavian Influence in American Literature."

## NORTHERN LIGHTS

#### Axel Gallén-Kallela

In the death of Axel Gallén-Kallela, Northern art and art in general has lost one of its outstanding masters. To him belongs the honor of being the creator of a truly national art in Finland, his native land. The dramatic power and fidelity with which he depicted the untouched primitive life is filled with an intensity, a richness of fantasy, and a strength and fire that grip the beholder. His creative work in treating the Finnish myths, notably his paintings illustrating the national epic, *Kalevala*, are internationally known and acclaimed.

In order to study and steep himself in

the ethnographic and racial characteristics necessary as a foundation for his delineation of the figures moving through this ancient epic, he traveled throughout Finland, visiting remote regions of his country, and living for years in the wilderness of Ruovesi; and out of this exile emerged the new, simple, and stern style, withal lyric and decorative, that distinguishes the *Kalevala* series.

His was a versatile genius, and besides pictures of folk-life and peasant types, he painted vigorous portraits, executed etchings and glass paintings, and carved sculptures in wood.

#### The Björnson Centenary

Next year Norway will celebrate the centenary of Björnstjerne Björnson, the great national poet and patriot, who was born December 8, 1832. Among the plans already under way for a fitting commemoration of the date, is the erection of a monument at his birthplace, the Björgan parsonage in Kvikne which now belongs to the nation. A representative committee of leading men in the country's civic and cultural affairs has been organized to raise funds for the memorial by public subscription.

#### Peer Gynt in Seattle

To the Seattle Repertory Playhouse, in the third year of its existence, has come the gratifying experience of having broken the local box office records in its presentation of *Peer Gynt*. The triumph was also artistic, deservedly due to ability on the part of the actors and the great care and thought given to the production.

The acting version of the play was especially prepared by Albert M. Ottenheimer, who painstakingly reduced the play to three acts and fifteen scenes, which could be played within three hours. In this he was aided by a copy of the play showing the cuttings made by the sons of Ibsen and Björnson for the National Theater in Oslo. Miss Helga Lund, who played the part of Solveig, spent four

months in Norway last year, and had an opportunity to consult with the theater and obtain a complete description of the Norwegian method of staging Ibsen.

The Norwegian residents of Seattle from the first displayed a great interest in the project, and were profuse both in aid and suggestions. The Scandinavian department of the University of Washington stood ready to advise as to correct pronunciation of names. A group of women saw to it that the wedding scene of Ingrid was authentically costumed down to the last detail.

When the play was finally launched it met with enthusiastic approval, and it is beyond doubt more thoroughly national in effect than any earlier productions of the play in English that have been put on in America.

#### Agnete Bertram and Her Gymnastic Pupils Visit America

Agnete Bertram and six of her pupils in physical culture have made an exhibition tour of schools and universities in the United States and Canada during March and April. Their first program was given in the large gymnasium of New York University, where the demonstration of this new form of women's gymnastics met with the enthusiastic approval of a large audience. Readers of the REVIEW may recall an article a few years ago on Fru Bertram's system, which embodies so much of rhythmical harmony and beauty, and essentially feminine grace.

While in New York the members of the group were entertained at dinner by Consul General and Mrs. Bech, and in Washington they were guests of honor at a luncheon given by the Danish Minister and Mrs. Wadsted at the Mayflower Hotel.

#### An Andrée Memorial Room

The John Morton Memorial Building in Philadelphia is to have a special Andrée room in which there is being arranged a memorial exhibition of his polar expedition.

The Swedish American painter, Arthur Hallström, has recently completed portraits of the three explorers, and these have been presented to the museum by Allan Thurnberg of Minneapolis. The sculptor, Eskil Landin, is engaged in modeling three portrait busts, which are also to be placed in the Andrée room.

#### Henni Forchhammer's American Lecture Tour

Miss Henni Forchhammer, who came to the United States this spring for a country-wide lecture tour under the direction of the League of Nations Association, was the guest of honor at a reception in the home of Baron and Baroness Dahlerup in New Rochelle shortly after her arrival. Among those present were the Danish Consul General Georg Bech and Mrs. Bech, and Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the International Woman Suffrage Association, who made a speech in her honor.

Miss Forchhammer's first lecture on this American tour was delivered at the Hotel Plaza on March 17, under the auspices of the Danish American Women's Association.

#### Scandinavian Night at International House

The reputation of the Scandinavian group for putting on one of the best shows of the year at International House was amply sustained on the evenings of March 27 and 28 when a musical farce, *The Merry Widow of Ithaca*, was produced under the direction of Henry Angelo and Niels Bonnesen. An attractive and slangy Penelope (Miss Ingeborg Jonsson), having been wooed with suitable ardor by three merry monarchs (Sonnich Sonnichsen, Hans Furuholmen, and Alf Schiötte-Christensen), was just about to marry Damon, a scantily clad fisherman (Sven Ludvigsen), when the opportune arrival of Odysseus (Bertil Rundberg) allowed him to return to his first love Iris (Miss Emery Adelstam). Music was supplied by

Einar Nielsen, accompanist, and *stemning* by Walter Gustafson, bartender. The enthusiasm of the audience was an unmistakable tribute to the excellence of the performance.

#### The Swedish Colonial Society

The Swedish Colonial Society at its twenty-second annual meeting on the ninth of April celebrated the two hundred and ninety-third anniversary of the first purchase of land on the Delaware River by the Swedes. The Society held its meeting in the assembly rooms of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and the formal program was followed by a reception and supper. An address on "Washington and His Foreign Officers" was delivered by Albert Bushnell Hart, emeritus professor of history, Harvard University.

#### Sweden's National Parks

Sweden has no less than fourteen national parks with a total area of 3,655 square kilometers. Some of them are small and may consist of a tract of woodland or an island, but in northern Sweden there are several covering a large territory. One of the best known of these parks is the Abisko, which is also the chief center for tourists who visit Lapland, and there the Swedish Tourist Society has a large and widely popular station and inn. In fact, it is so much sought that at the peak of the season the less fortunate visitors are sometimes obliged to spend the night in sleeping cars on railway sidings.

The largest and most remarkable of Sweden's parks are Sarek and Stora Sjöfallet, with a combined area of 2,400 square kilometers, and a scenery that offers mountain ranges and glaciers, and many large lakes, and there is an abundance of game, including bears.

#### Fireside Industries Exhibit

During the month of April the Fireside Industries, a revival of the colonial home arts of the Southern Mountaineers, were

shown in a number of exhibitions in New York and vicinity. These products of the spinning wheel and handloom are made at Berea College in Kentucky under the direction of the head and founder of the work, Mrs. Anna Ernberg, who was selected by Ida Tarbell as one of the fifty outstanding American women.

Mrs. Ernberg is a native of Sweden, and after a long period of years in America, she is now about to make a prolonged visit to the Scandinavian countries and the British Isles.

#### Carnegie Professor at Uppsala and Oslo

Professor Walter Thompson, of the political science department, Stanford University, has been appointed Carnegie professor at the Universities of Uppsala and Oslo, and sailed for his post April 11, accompanied by Mrs. Thompson.

#### A Great Wagner Singer

The Dane, Lauritz Melchior, known in the musical world everywhere as a distinguished singer of Wagner rôles, took the leading tenor parts in the Wagner afternoon cycle of the past operatic season at the Metropolitan in New York. Upon his first appearance after his return—in *Die Walküre*—he was given an ovation by the audience, being called by name to receive the plaudits alone, a distinction by no means common at the Metropolitan. His voice was at its best in the divinely beautiful music of Siegmund's part in *Die Walküre*. As the hero of *Siegfried* he had a part that called out his powers as an actor and demonstrated his peculiar fitness for the great heroic rôles as conceived by Wagner. Unfortunately, he did not appear as Siegfried in *Götterdämmerung*, and the part, therefore, lost some of its unity, but in *Tristan und Isolde* he again had one of his best rôles. Melchior's singing of Tristan's part is one of the events to which music lovers look forward as one of the high points of the operatic season.



## FICTION

**The Blind Man**, by Olav Duun. Translated from the Norwegian by Arthur G. Chater. Knopf. 1931. Price \$2.50.

This is the second book in the six-volume family saga *The People of Juvik*. The first volume begins with the savage and half legendary figures of the early Juvikings, and the story emerges into full daylight with the splendid Per Anders, the last of the old men of Juvik and yet the first modern among them. After him his weaker sons, Jens and Per, are in "the trough of the wave," from which the translator has taken a name for the first volume; but in the last pages we see Per's half-grown son Anders "taking his place" at his father's funeral ale, that is, stepping up into the high seat as head of the family.

In *The Blind Man* the story of Anders is the crest of a new wave, sparkling, effervescing. He is one who goes his own way as the wind and waves, just as unconscious of what people think of him. There is something magnificent even in his absurdities and blunders, as when he tries to cure his failing eyesight with hot tar and train oil, with the result that he goes totally blind.

Although Olav Duun's saga spans over only a couple of hundred years, we feel how his people are rooted in customs and superstitions going back thousands of years. One of these superstitions is the terror of Lapp magic, called *gann*. Per Anders, perhaps the sanest of them all, had snapped his fingers at it, but his son Per had succumbed to a sickness which he believed a Lapp to have fastened upon him. Per's son Anders was not one to be bound by any old beliefs. He married Solvi, the daughter of the half-Lapp, Lame Andrias, and at first all seemed to go well. But a terrible thing happened. The sheep on the farms round about were torn by wolves one night; there were two of them, and one was lame like Andrias, while the other—a neighbor had seen the wolves sloughing off their hides, and the other had the face of Solvi.

This theme of the bridegroom who is led to believe that his bride roams abroad as a wolf at night is an old, old ballad motif and brings into the story a shuddering sense of hoary eld, from which the modern peasant Anders can not free himself, though in his later life he is able to push it back and at least partially forget it. He marries again, a woman of his own race who helps him to become the man he is destined to be, a king of the whole parish, a man of large dimensions for all his weak-



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nesses. He rules his family like a providence, but in his son Per he meets a new element, a finer rectitude, a more delicate sense of what is fitting. To Anders it seems ridiculous to let excessive scrupulousness stand in the way of the family advancement, but he respects his son, even when Per crosses his purposes. It is, however, the daughter Aasel in whom the old Juviking strength is reborn, and it is she who carries on and guards the family interests in the next book.

Duun has in a marvelous way differentiated the six volumes, so that, while they tell the story of a single family, each has its own mood and color. Among the six, the present volume stands out by virtue of the strong, brilliant personality of Anders who dominates the whole book.

H. A. L.

**The Everlasting Struggle**, by Johan Bojer. Translated by Arna Heni and Louise Rourke. Century. 1931. Price \$2.50.

The original of this book, entitled *Folk ved Sjøen* (People by the Sea), has been received in Norway with a delighted approval as great as or perhaps even greater than that given *The Last of the Vikings*. It is from the same locality, and we hear of Kristaver Myran's boat-house, although the gallant latter-day viking himself does not appear. The former book dealt with the adventurous side of the fisherman's life, with the thrill of mastering the elements, and the escape from the cares of everyday life. *The Everlasting Struggle* tells about the people who are left at home. Its real hero and central figure is Mother Lisbeth. Stronger and more intelligent than her husband, possessed of infinite patience and unselfishness, sustained by her simple piety, she carries on her back the whole family of Flata—the little crofter place by the sea.

The Flata family is one that will never succeed. Its members individually will never get on in the world, but the home itself is somehow adequate to every emergency, always there with shelter for the family and its wards. The brilliant Gjert—who came into the world as the result of Lisbeth's one lapse from virtue in her youth—returns home a wreck. The two beautiful girls come to grief in different ways; one marries the heir to a great farm, but he is a wastrel, and Flata has to shelter him too. The younger son, the energetic Per, is resolved that he will make more of his life than his father had done, but the burden is too heavy. His life is symbolized in the extension to the house which he began but could never finish.

The background of Bojer's realistic peasant novels is the vicinity of Trondheim where he grew up. It is not far from the scene of Olav Duun's novels, but the milieu and the people are seen from entirely different viewpoints. Duun describes the great family whose members instinctively justify questionable dealings by their code of loyalty to the family. Bojer

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tells of the poor crofters who live in the outskirts of the Juviking possessions, the object of their contempt or at best of their charity. Bojer allows himself rather bitter jibes at the great families; his sympathy is always with the small fry.

In their method of approach the two authors are as different as in the people they portray. Duun fascinates us by the subtle psychology with which he uncovers the struggle between good and evil in the individual soul. Bojer moves us by his story of the simple-minded people who come to grips with the realities of trying to keep alive and who are quite unconscious of the heroic virtues they develop in the struggle. In Duun there is always a sense of the dim mysterious past out of which his people arise. In Bojer there is the full clear daylight of modern times. It is possible that this very lack of mystic relation with the past has contributed, with his sprightliness, his warm human sympathy, and his gift for graphic story-telling, to win for Bojer the almost universal popularity he enjoys; for as his people are less marked by their particular local background, they are more easily comprehensible to non-Norwegian readers.

H. A. L.

**I Sit Alone.** by Waldemar Ager. Translated by Charles Wharton Stork. *Harpers*. 1931. Price \$2.50.

The success of O. E. Rølvaag has been the entering wedge that has brought to the attention of the English-reading public another Western author hitherto known only to Norwegians. Waldemar Ager is well known among his countrymen as editor, lecturer, and fiction writer. Many of his short stories are gems. He was, I believe, the first Norwegian American to attain the honor of publication in Norway, where his books are brought out by Aschehoug.

His latest novel, called in Norwegian *Hundeöine* (Dog's Eyes), is the best he has yet done. In the original title he has wanted to indicate how the unhappy man, the one who feels himself the underdog, is not wanted anywhere. He describes a lacerated soul who is bound to suffer in many ways not comprehensible to the average robust citizen.

Ager has a keen perception of the subtler problems that beset the immigrant. Let others boast of the broad acres conquered by him, the splendid farmhouses and stately churches, the schools and institutions that stand as a monument to his energy. Waldemar Ager is more concerned with the spiritual poverty that is concealed beneath the external achievement. He sees the souls of the immigrants as plants torn from their native soil, losing many fine root filaments in the process, and languishing or even dying in the new environs. In spite of this showing the reverse side of progress, his kindly sympathy, his humor, wit, and charm have won him the regard of his countrymen.

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## SHIPPING NOTES

### DANISH NAUTICAL ALMANAC IN ITS FORTY-FIRST YEAR'S ISSUE

Published by former Director of Navigation, Commander Bildsøe, the *Nautical Almanac for 1931* has just come from the press, and as usual contains much of great value to shipping men. Among the special articles is an interesting description of the new international signal-book, soon to be published, and also an article dealing with international sea-route regulations. Much of the material is of a technical nature which appeals directly to those associated with sea transportation.

### MANY SHIPS ADDED TO NORWEGIAN MERCHANT MARINE

Never before in maritime history, says *Norwegian Veritas*, have so many ships been ordered by Norwegian owners. Through this action Oslo has strengthened its position as the chief shipping center in Northern Europe, with Bergen a close second. It is estimated that a total of 430,000 tons of shipping were on order or under construction abroad for Norwegian accounts, and 33,000 tons being built in Norway. Last year the Norwegian merchant marine was increased by about one hundred ships, aggregating nearly half a million tons.

### SWEDISH ENGINEER DEVISES NEW TYPE OF STEAM ENGINE FOR SHIPS

Because of the exceptionally quick development that has taken place in the Diesel motor as a marine engine, considerable improvement has been made in steam engines used for ship purposes. A recent invention of this nature by Axel Andersson, chief

engineer of the Lindholmen Shipyard, is attracting the wide attention of shipowners. A feature of the engine is that the waste steam from the main engine, instead of being lost in the condenser, is utilized first in a turbine which brings back to the main engine the greater part of its energy, so that considerable economy is obtained thereby. The new engine is being installed in a ship belonging to the Concordia Company.

### A LAYING-UP PLAN BEING CONSIDERED BY A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES

At a meeting in Copenhagen, plans were considered for laying up a number of ships with home ports in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain and the Netherlands. In a circular sent out by the Baltic International Maritime Conference it was stated that the result of the discussion was that it was decided to submit an amended laying-up plan on a wider basis to the shipowners' associations of the countries concerned. It is believed that such movement is essential to those in the Baltic and White Sea trades for the coming season.

### NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNERS SEEK PROTECTION AGAINST CHINESE PIRATES

Pirating in Chinese waters has increased to such an extent that Norwegian shipowners have formed a committee, known as the "Pirate Committee," which will take measures to protect their crews and ships against attacks and to seek reparation for persons either hurt or killed. One measure proposed is that Chinese passengers before embarking should be possessed of passports and be liable to search. The committee also recommends that crews on Norwegian vessels should belong to the white race.

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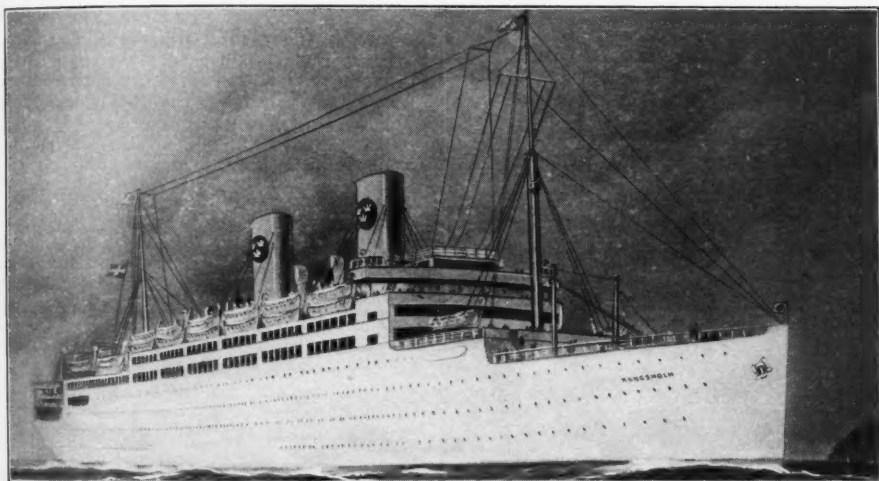
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## TRADE NOTES

## SWEDISH PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONGRESS

When the Sixth Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce meets in Washington in May Swedish commercial and financial interests both in Sweden and the United States will be fully represented. Preliminary to the Washington meeting a conference will be held in New York where the Swedish Chamber of Commerce will be host to the delegates from Sweden. The delegates from that country are headed by J. S. Edström, president of the Swedish General Electric Company. Other delegates from Sweden are Björn Prytz, head of the Swedish Ball Bearing Company; Consul General Axel A. Johnson, managing director of the Johnson Line; H. L. F. Lagercrantz, former Minister of Sweden to the United States; together with a number of the leading bankers of Sweden.

## DANISH SILK INDUSTRY SHOWS EXPANSION

Through the amalgamation of a number of silk manufacturing plants in Denmark a new company has been formed which under the name of "Danish-Swiss Silk Weaving Company" expects to greatly extend operations and sales at home and abroad. Those taking leading parts in the new organization are R. C. Thomasen, N. C. Jantoft, de la Porte, E. Krag and Leo Fredriksen.

## NORWEGIAN ALUMINIUM SALES TO RUSSIA INCREASING

Against the 6,000 tons of aluminium that Norway shipped to Russia last year there is to be delivered in the present year 11,500 tons, for which

the Soviet Republic is to pay Norway approximately 15,000,000 kroner. The aluminium is to be used in the manufacture of cables for Russian power stations. About 460 workers are employed at the Høyang plant of the Norwegian Aluminium Company. The first cargo of the new order left recently in the *Vega* belonging to the Bergen Steamship Company.

## DANISH CONSUMERS OF SUGAR ASKED TO USE HOME PRODUCT

Because of the large quantities of German sugar imported by Denmark, manufacturers of this product in Jutland have organized to induce consumers to buy only Danish sugar. At a largely attended meeting in Aarhus it was said that during the first seven months of last year more than 7,000,000 kils of foreign sugar entered Jutland. In many of the stores in that province no other sugar but Danish is now to be had, and signs are placed in conspicuous positions which say that "Only Danish Sugar Sold Here." The Jutland Wholesale Grocery Association is taking the lead in this new move for the consumption of home products.

## WORLD CURTAILMENT OF PULP AND PAPER PRODUCTION ADVOCATED

The falling consumption and decline in prices of pulp and paper products throughout the world is responsible for a movement that has for its purpose the curtailment of production for an indefinite period. While this course is expected to somewhat relieve the situation, it is the general opinion among the larger producers that not until there is a general improvement in industry and trade throughout the world will the paper and pulp industry begin its return to normal.

## STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912

Of *The American Scandinavian Review* published monthly at Princeton, New Jersey, for April, 1931.  
State of New York, County of New York, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared HANNA ASTRUP LARSEN, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Editor of *The American-Scandinavian Review* and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in sections 411, Postal Laws and Regulations.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Name of—	Post office address—
Publisher, The American-Scandinavian Foundation,	25 West 45th Street, New York
Editor, Hanna Astrup Larsen,	25 West 45th Street, New York
Managing Editor, Hanna Astrup Larsen,	25 West 45th Street, New York
Business Manager, Neilson Abeel	25 West 45th Street, New York

2. That the owner is:

The American-Scandinavian Foundation	25 West 45th Street, New York
Henry Goddard Leach, President	441 Lexington Avenue, New York
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3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which the stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by her.

HANNA ASTRUP LARSEN  
(Signature of editor)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of April, 1931.

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New York County Clerk's No. 17  
New York Register's No. 320  
Commission Expires March 30, 1933